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Evangelical Friend

Dec. 1985/Jan. 1986
Vol. XIX, No. 4/5



An Invitation to

BY DAN L. SMITH

I WOULD LIKE to extend to you an invitation to heresy. To be more precise, God would like to extend to you an invitation to heresy. I am simply delivering the invitation. You shouldn't be surprised, really. God has often given such opportunities to His people. I would like to point out only one. This invitation occurred in the sixth century before the coming of Jesus. Inserting a review of the context may be helpful.

* * *

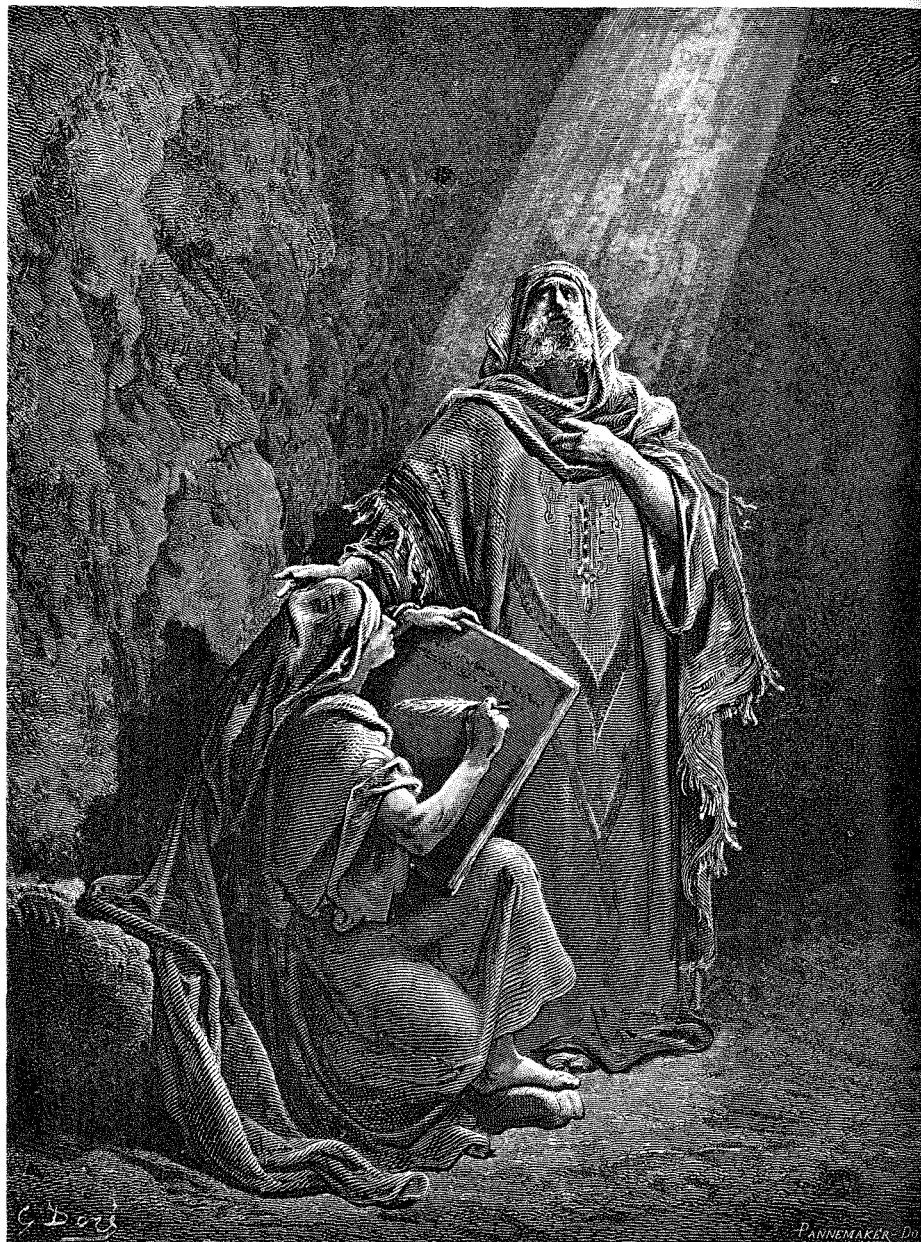
In 605 B.C. the two greatest empires of the Near East faced off at a market town in Carchemesh in northern Syria. The northern kingdom of Israel had been defeated a century before and was all but forgotten in the historical stream of empires in the Ancient Near East. The armies who confronted one another at Carchemesh were well aware of the implications of this battle. At stake was the rule of the four corners of the world. At the head of the Neo-Babylonian forces was the dashing prince Nebuchadnezzar, who had repeatedly led his armies to glorious victory. He was successful again, and the defeated Egyptian army returned through Palestine, trying to maintain whatever they could salvage of their control of that region.

Four years before, at another ill-fated battle at Harran, Pharaoh Necho had placed a king of his own choosing, Jehoiakim, on the throne of the southern Jewish nation, now the only remaining sovereign Jewish nation in the world. In 598 Jehoiakim died, and his 18-year-old son Jehoiachin assumed the throne. He was on the throne for only three months when the Babylonians arrived at Jerusalem and surrounded the city. Nebuchadnezzar himself marched into the city and received the surrender of young Jehoiachin, who was carried off with a large number of his elite forces, while the Babylonians looted the Temple.

Nebuchadnezzar then placed a 21-year-old, Zedekiah, on the throne in Jerusalem to reign as his vassal. But it was

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ILLUSTRATION BY 19TH CENTURY ARTIST GUSTAVE DORE



BARUCH WRITING JEREMIAH'S PROPHECIES

scarcely ten years before Zedekiah, as kings are inclined to do, determined that he was not powerful enough as a mere vassal and laid plans to rebel against the Babylonians. Zedekiah's plans were cruelly punished. The man who placed him on the throne responded with the rage of an insulted benefactor. Zedekiah's sons were killed before his eyes, and then his own eyes were put out. In chains, he was carried to Babylon to join the other exiles. The sad history can be found in 2 Kings 23–25.

But we are interested in a confrontation that occurred before Zedekiah's downfall, in the days when Zedekiah was

Prophetic Courage

considering his conspiracy. We aren't told about this in Kings, but we are in the book of Jeremiah.

* * *

From chapter 26 through chapter 45 of Jeremiah we are given a history of the career of one of God's most illustrious heretics, Jeremiah the prophet. Jeremiah's message was consistent. The reign of Nebuchadnezzar was the plan of God and the Jews had to submit to his authority.

Zedekiah had his own advisors, prophets, soothsayers, diviners. Their advice was unanimous: "We do not need to submit to Babylonian power. God will help us if we only revolt."

Jeremiah responded emphatically:

"Do not listen to the words of the prophets who are saying to you, 'You shall not serve the king of Babylon,' for it is a lie which they are prophesying to you. I have not sent them, says the Lord . . ."

The spokesman of the King's prophets, Hananiah, presented his rebuttal:

"Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: I have broken the yoke of the king of Babylon; within two years I will bring back to this place all the vessels of the Lord's house . . . I will bring back Jehoiachin and all the exiles . . . for I will break the yoke of the king of Babylon."

Jeremiah's response was a masterful rhetorical reply:

"So be it! May the Lord do so; may the Lord make the words which you have prophesied come true . . . But beware the prophet who prophesies well-being . . ."

At this Hananiah took the wooden yoke that Jeremiah was wearing as a symbol of the yoke of Babylon and broke it. You can almost hear the cheering of the crowds as Jeremiah retreats. But Jeremiah returned later, this time with iron bars. Courageously he repeated the ominous warning:

"Thus saith the Lord, 'You have broken wooden bars, but I will make in their place bars of iron. I have put the neck of all these nations into an iron yoke of servitude to Nebuchadnezzar, King of Babylon, and they shall serve him.'"

And then Jeremiah turned to Hananiah:

"Listen, Hananiah—The Lord has not sent you—and you have made this people trust in a lie . . ."

What is this lie the people had trusted? That God would deliver them? This is hardly a radical message. Didn't Isaiah promise God's sure help a century before? We can read it for ourselves in Isaiah 37:33-35. "I will defend this city and save it, for my sake and for the sake of David my servant!"

When Jeremiah wrote to the exiles who were already taken to Babylon, he advised them that their stay would be long. The prophets that arose among the exiles were angry with this—chapter 29, verse 27. "Now why haven't you rebuked Jeremiah of Anathoth who is prophesying to you? He has said to us in Babylon that our exile will be long; build houses, plant gardens, and eat their produce . . ."

Again Jeremiah wrote and rebuked the exiles for trusting a lie.

The issue came to a head with Jeremiah's imprisonment.

In Jeremiah 38, the leaders of the people came to Zedekiah and demanded that this prophet be put to death, for, they said, "He is weakening the hands of the soldiers who are left in this city, and the hands of all the people by speaking such words to them . . ."

Jeremiah was preaching a heresy that Jerusalem would fall and be under the yoke of Babylon and he was accused of treason for his advising the Jews not to resist the Babylonians.

The leader of the opposition was Hananiah the prophet, and Hananiah spoke for orthodoxy. Hananiah knew his history, knew God's promises, and probably read Isaiah. If you consider God's deliverance of Israel from Egyptian bondage, the Philistine threat, and the Assyrian Empire, then Hananiah's confidence seems perfectly sane, reasonable, and indeed orthodox. Hananiah was preaching the "Old-time Gospel." He was the patriot—the church board chairman whom everyone respected, the truly godly man who had the confidence of King Zedekiah. Hananiah was considered the true prophet. *It was Jeremiah that no one listened to.*

You must understand one more thing about the letter that Jeremiah first sent in chapter 29. In that letter Jeremiah advised the exiles to build houses, plant gardens, and marry off their sons and daughters.

THESE WERE NOT simply things to keep them busy for the next 70 years. Deuteronomy 20 lists things very few people knew about, including the exemptions from military service. All people who had just married, all people who had just built a house, all people who had just planted a vineyard were to go home and not fight. Do these three historic reasons for not fighting sound familiar? They are precisely what Jeremiah told the exiles to do.

Hananiah and the false prophets were preaching resistance—and God's sure aid to those who would fight the Babylonians. We find out that not only was Jeremiah a heretic, a treasonous prophet, but that he was a pacifist too. If there was any doubt the next line in his letter seals it. "Seek the Shalom of the city where you are living for in its shalom, you will find your shalom."

The strangest thing about this treasonous, heretical, pacifist prophet was that he happened to be the mouthpiece of God. He was the true prophet. Hananiah's old-time orthodoxy was as Martin Buber puts it, "The right message for the wrong time." God was doing a new thing, a shocking thing.

Jeremiah still believed in the promises of God, promises that God would care for His people. It seems that the crowds always reacted in one of two ways to a prophet. The first response was simply rejection. With closed minds they

refused to listen if God was trying to lead or teach in new ways. The second response goes to the other extreme. Because God was leading in a new direction, because one thing changed, then they thought all was lost—the whole structure of their faith came crashing down. Black or white, one extreme or the other. Both extremes are seriously in error.

We must never become so comfortable that God can't shock or surprise us with a new direction, a new lesson, a new perspective on our relationship with God. On the other hand, new directions do not mean that God's promises and God's love are not constant and secure. Jeremiah was able to affirm the eternal validity of God's promises even while he was preaching a new lesson so shocking that he was threatened with death.

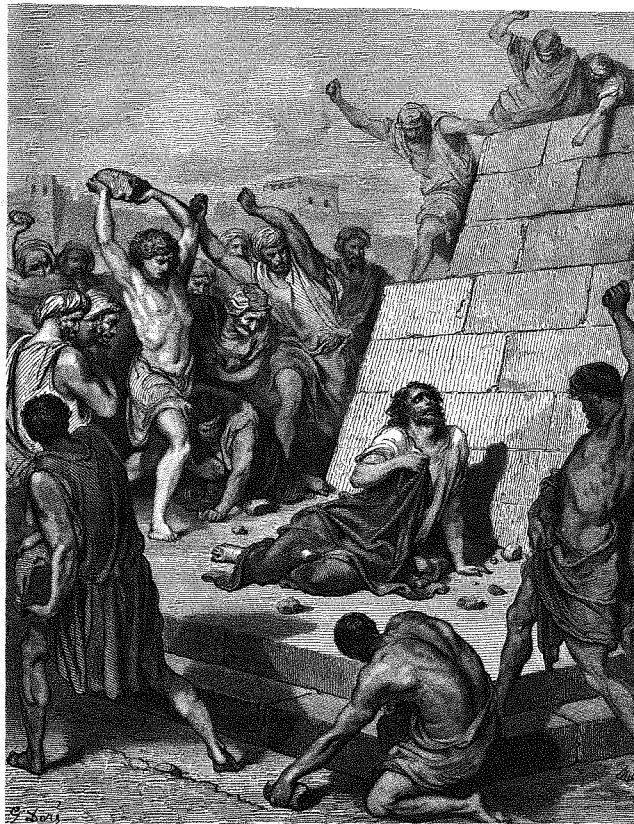
If God is the same yesterday and tomorrow, how can there be a new word of God? Perhaps it is not that there is a new word of God but that God's Word is always new. God's Word comes to us as a surprise and a challenge.

Stephen described us all well when he summarized God's relationship with a constantly stubborn people: "You stiff-necked people—you always resist the Holy Spirit. As your fathers did, so do you. Which of the prophets did not your fathers persecute?"

It is easy for us to read the Bible with smug hindsight. We read about Stephen, about Jeremiah and Hananiah, the way God spoke through unexpected people, and we often have the pompous notion that if we had been there we would have done otherwise. We wouldn't have persecuted the prophets. We wouldn't have thrown stones at Stephen. We'd have been standing right there next to him and saying, "You tell 'em Stephen, buddy; we're right behind you . . ."

But that is not where we stand, is it? We stand in the crowd listening to Hananiah and Jeremiah, trying to decide between the familiar and comforting words of Hananiah and the hard words of this Jeremiah person. We stand in the crowds rolling a stone in our hand, thinking about what this Stephen is saying. In both cases God took comfortable orthodoxies and turned them upside down. God was on the side of this blasphemous Stephen who talked about a Messiah. God was on the side of this prophet who preached exile as the will of God for a stubborn people. God's word was shocking.

There is no way to make this teaching comfortable for us. If we avoid the difficulty, we cheer for Hananiah's comfortable orthodoxy and miss what God may be trying to say to us through words that sound like heresy.



MARTYRDOM OF ST. STEPHEN

How can we avoid both a closed mind and a fear that if we deal with hard questions the whole structure of our faith will crumble? Jeremiah's heretical idea was that God's people might have to live as exiles for awhile. They would have to trust God in hard times, in a foreign land. That trust meant openness to God's new directions. But it was in the context of God's sure promise to be with them always. New directions, same God. New perspectives, same promises.

Too often we hold the view that because we are in the hands of God, all other problems, all other questions don't really matter. I call you to be a Jeremiah people. A Jeremiah faith assumes that because we are in the hands of God we must constantly be open, listening to where we go next. Christians know that being in God's care means that God is sure to be with us and guide us.

A new openness is expressed in some of the biblical writings about exile and life in the exile. One of the most magnificent statements of faith in the Old Testament that I have contemplated is in Daniel 3:18. Faced with the fiery furnace for refusing to worship foreign idols, three young Jews stood before the King and stated that they knew God could deliver them from the flames. They trusted God's promise to always be with them. Whatever happened, they trusted God's promise. They knew God was powerful enough to deliver them; in verse 18 are those magnificent words, "But even if not . . . O king, we shall still not serve your idols." EVEN if NOT. We trust, but that doesn't mean we know all the answers.

THE MAN OR WOMAN of faith in the God of Israel and the God of our Messiah Jesus ought to be the finest students in the world, ever curious, always exploring new ideas, studying all views and perspectives to formulate his or her own responses. Instead, Christians tend to be academic cowards, afraid that perhaps some ideas are more powerful than God Himself. Fear is a betrayal of faith in God. He has promised to be with us; all questions are open. We are free because of God's promises. Nothing can separate us from God. Study and rejoice in what God may teach you in surprising quarters. I call on you to be a Jeremiah people, ever ready for God to lead you in shocking new directions that will challenge you.

Many ideas that appear to be wrong or unworkable will be just that, wrong and unworkable. Some ideas you struggle with will be invitations to heresy that you must reject. But be warned: The next idea that challenges you may be an invitation from a Jeremiah.

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COVER

A woman in Israel, candelabra, and a Greek cross with letters meaning Jesus Christ the conqueror (or victor) serve as a Christmas reminder that Christ brings light, hope, and power to a world of hardship and turmoil. (Photo by Lon Fendall).

ANTECEDENTS

The holiday season makes us think of home and family. Gathering in family groups to share meals, gifts, laughter, common experiences, and love makes holidays meaningful. A great deal of comfort and security is felt within the home where attention to one another's needs is treated with reciprocal consideration.

Two articles this month deal with leaving home. "To follow Jesus," says Howard Macy (page 14), "we have to leave home." To be asked to give up father and mother, houses and land at Christmas time seems inappropriate and unreasonable. Aren't these things the very essence of the season?

It is in Christ that we find the warmth and security of home. We dwell in Him, and He in us.

Dan Smith shares with us Jeremiah's courage to give the word of the Lord to the Jewish nation. Jeremiah said Jerusalem would fall and the exiles in Babylon should plan to stay a long time. No Christmas at home.

What can we learn from the time in exile? What is to be gained (or what is meant) to give up father and mother, houses and land? Although the articles were not written specifically for the holidays, Dan Smith and Howard Macy can enhance our perspective on the good times we will enjoy in our homes with family and friends.

You will note that more articles than usual are about missions. Missions and Christmas are closely related. It is because Christ came to Bethlehem that we go to Bolivia; Hong Kong; India; Mexico; Peru; Philippines; Rough Rock, Arizona; Rwanda; and Taiwan.

Our cartoon character regularly seen on this page will be wearing a new hat. Although cartoons are not designed to be taken literally, a hat with more historical authenticity is appropriate. It may also be refreshing to realize that Mr. Quaker can make such a significant change as giving up his old hat. —D.L.M.

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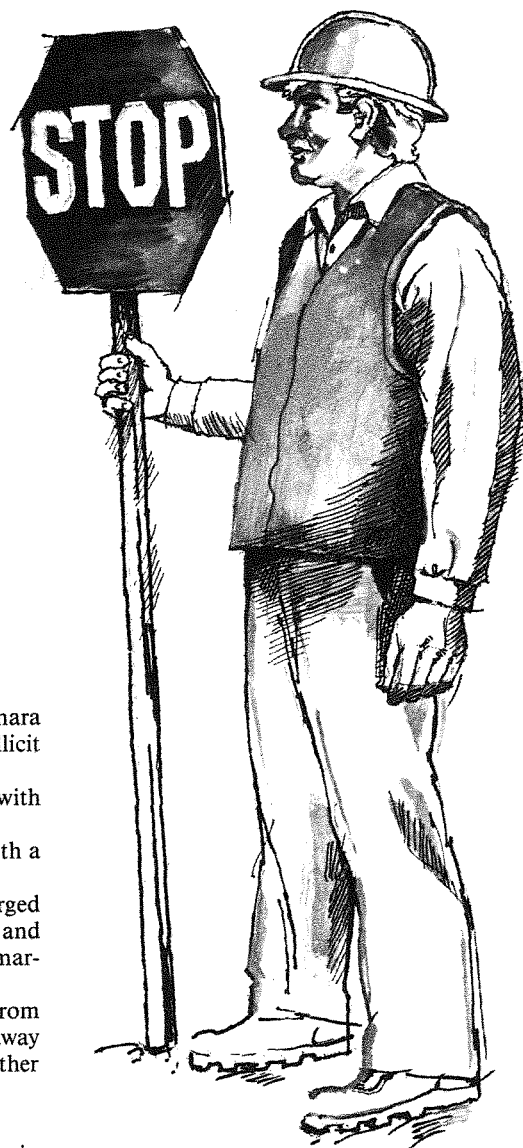
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Poor Excuses for Running Red Lights

BY CHARLES MYLANDER



TERESA felt terrible about "how many lives I'm messing up." A thoughtful woman, she regretted the damage caused by her adulterous affair. She was married to Pete, and they were parents of two small children. In secret she was committing adultery with Cliff, who also was married with youngsters at home. While she felt miserable about hurting both families, the sinful affair with Cliff brought her enough pleasure that she did not want to break it off. She said it was like taking a bite of delicious lobster for the first time, and knowing that she had to eat the rest of it. "I can't help it. I'm in love. What am I supposed to do?" she asked a pastor.

"Wait a minute," he responded with a kind voice. "You are lying to yourself when you say, 'I can't help it.' Let's suppose you are in bed with Cliff, just about to make love. All at once your husband breaks into the room with a gun in his hand. Would you go ahead as if he were not there?"

"Of course not," Teresa snapped.

"So much for helpless!" quipped the pastor.

"I guess it's not that I can't help it; it's just that I don't want to help it," she admitted.

* * *

Tamara was talking with a Christian friend when somehow the subject of her illicit lover came up. She knew her friend was aware of what was going on, but neither of them had ever spoken of it before this min-

ute. "You know, my . . . my . . ." Tamara was stumbling for words to make the illicit relationship not sound so bad.

"Your sin," the Christian friend said with a knowing look.

"Yes, *my sin*," Tamara spat it back with a touch of humor.

As they talked, the Christian friend urged Tamara to turn away from "her sin" and break off the relationship with Brett, a married man.

"I don't think Brett can stay away from me. And I don't think that I can stay away from him," was her reply. It was another way of saying, "I can't help it."

* * *

It may take drastic action to break the grip of secret sin. Evelyn had wanted out of her marriage for a long time, believing it was a mistake in the first place. Her husband, Robert, seemed so insensitive to her needs, so inconsiderate, so bitter with his tongue. All her hopes and prayers that he would change came to nothing. Her feelings for him were all but dead. She felt like committing suicide.

A mutual friend of Robert and Evelyn's held a job with flexible hours during the day. He often came over to chat with Evelyn like good friends should and do. His warmth and attention moved beyond friendship, but Evelyn ignored the red lights. Their relationship soon turned into outright adultery. Then the shock—Evelyn discovered she was pregnant by him. For the sake of both of their marriages he insisted on an immediate abortion. Evelyn hesitated. She had always believed abortion was wrong. Yet the pressure was on; if she waited any longer Robert would find out. A few days later she and the "friend" made the trip to the abortion clinic.

In a remarkably short time, his "love" for Evelyn cooled and she felt used. With her

Christian background and training, guilt swamped her emotions. She hated herself, broke off the adulterous affair, and even confessed to her husband, Robert, what she had done. When he guessed the culprit, she lied, telling herself that she wanted to protect the friendship between the two men. She rationalized that since the wrong relationship was over, refusing to tell her husband did not make any difference.

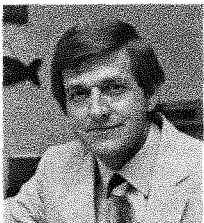
It was not all over. More marriage problems, a vulnerable moment, a seductive line from the "friend," and she was in bed with him again.

A pastor helped Evelyn to see that there was no way to rebuild her marriage on dishonesty. She would only find freedom when she told Robert who the other man really was. Evelyn agreed at the moment, but when the time came she felt that she was not strong enough. The depths of depression followed as she looked for every possible way out. The only problem was that neither the Lord nor her own conscience would let her off the hook.

The pastor offered an appointment for Robert and Evelyn to meet together with

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and is author of Secrets for Growing Churches published in 1979 by Harper & Row. This article is taken from his new book, Running the Red Lights, scheduled for release from Regal Books in March, 1986.



him to soften the blow as she told him the brutal truth. Healing of their relationship began in that meeting as Evelyn made a full and brokenhearted confession. To her surprise, Robert responded in a sensitive and thoughtful way even though he was deeply hurt. The power of her adultery was broken.

* * *

The "I can't help it" excuse has dozens of forms.

"I'm sorry, but that is just the way I am."

"It's not my fault that I'm made this way."

"I know this relationship isn't exactly according to God's law, but I can't get out. It's impossible."

"I do things that I am sorry about later, but I just can't help it."

The next time you catch yourself saying, "I can't help it," change the can't to won't. "I won't stop lust," is more honest, and more painful, than "I can't." The reality of telling Christ Jesus, "I won't," often shocks the honest Christian enough to change it to "by your grace, I will." When you are alive in Jesus Christ, you can "help it"! This is not arrogance. It is nothing less than the promise of God (Psalm 145:13, 14).

Because sin causes a person to build strong defense mechanisms, it helps to think through the answers to common excuses. Please recall that prayer and love prepare the heart to receive good answers to objections. However, strong answers for weak excuses serve as excellent preventive medicine.

Excuse: We're in love . . .

Answers: Genital sex outside of marriage is always wrong. Always sinful. Why? Because God said so.

"When 'falling in love' includes sexual immorality, it is not real love at all. It is only a dream image of real love. As long as the other person reflects this false dream, the magic will last. When one or the other no longer lives up to the dream image, disillusionment and pain will follow."*

Excuse: It feels so right.

Answers: Feelings are powerful, but not stable. They cycle up and down and will not last. No lasting relationship can be built on feelings alone.

Excuse: I'll lose him/her if I don't . . .

Answers: If this is true, then he/she doesn't really love you, only your body. True love is willing to wait.

A relationship built on immorality is vulnerable to unfaithfulness with someone else later on.

Excuse: It's a natural part of a meaningful relationship.

Answers: Any appetite is natural. Hunger does not excuse gluttony. Thirst does not justify drunkenness. Every appetite must have a limit or it enslaves a person.

A meaningful relationship never excuses sexual sin. God never made an exception to the seventh commandment by saying, "Thou shalt not commit adultery unless thou hast a meaningful relationship."

Excuse: We know it's wrong, but we can't seem to stop.

Answers: How much do you want to stop? Enough to be accountable to someone you both trust? Enough to change your dating patterns? Enough to take drastic action?

If you really can't stop, there may be a deeper problem. Have you thought about talking with a pastor or seeking Christian counseling?

Excuse: We don't go all the way, so it's not sinful.

Answers: (if married) Are you having an emotional affair? Your marriage vows include your affections, your emotional delight, and your body.

IF it's so wonderful, why do you hide it? Why don't you tell your husband/wife about it? Why not discuss it in your Bible study group or Sunday school class? Stop kidding yourself. You know it's wrong, don't you?

(If single) God looks at the heart. Is your heart really free from sexual lust? Are you treating your body as a temple of the Holy Spirit?

The more physical intimacy you save for marriage the happier your sexual adjustment will become within marriage.

Excuse: I've already committed adultery in my mind by lusting. I might as well do it in the body since I'm guilty anyway.

Answers: This is like saying, "I've already committed murder in my mind by hating. I might as well kill him since I'm guilty anyway." This reasoning can excuse rape, murder, or the worst crime you can imagine. It amounts to greed, "What I desire is what I take."

Although Christ has triumphed over the devil and his demons, spiritual warfare for believers goes on. Satan and his cohorts tempt every Christian. For this reason the Bible warns, "Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.

Resist him, standing firm in the faith . . ." (1 Peter 5:8-9)

The good news is that every disciple who lives in Christ can share the victory of the Lord Jesus over the evil spirits. He can resist them, rebuke them, and chase them away. His spiritual weapons are prayer and the Word of God spoken in faith. Claiming Christ's victory by his shed blood on the cross defeats Satan and the evil spirits in each personal battle. This power is yours in Christ and not limited to mature Christians only. The smallest child, the most simple disciple, the newest believer all possess this authority in Christ. This is a wonderful truth and an enormous power.

Teresa listened to the pastor tell why he saw hope for her marriage. Then an old fear of hers surfaced. She felt it was impossible for her to break off her illicit affair. "I'm not strong enough to stop," she stated firmly.

"What would it take for you to get out of this adulterous relationship?" the pastor asked.

"For him to break up with me," she insisted.

"There is one more possibility," the pastor added. "Christ can give you the strength to break it off."

What some believers do not know is that in Christ they have everything they need to conquer Satan and his wicked forces of evil. Look again at Colossians 2:9-10, "For in Christ all the *fullness* of the Deity lives in bodily form, and you have been given *fullness* in Christ . . ." (italics mine)

Every true believer shares the same Spirit and strength of God that dwells in Jesus Christ. Do not miss the power of these statements. The awesome truth is that the same presence and power of God that fills Jesus Christ also fills every believer. Grab hold of this fact and never let it go.

Thank You, Lord Jesus, for loving me and laying down Your life for me. Open my eyes today for the opportunity to love others and lay down my life for them. Grant me opportunities to use the spiritual gifts You have given to me in a spirit of humility, joy, and service. Help me to take my focus off myself and to fix my eyes on Jesus Christ and on those whom You want me to love and serve. Open my eyes to what You are doing, holy Father, and allow me to be used of the Holy Spirit as a part of it.

I pray in the confidence of the wonderful name of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is able to keep me from falling and present me before Your presence without fault and with great joy. Amen.

*The idea and some of the wording of this answer comes from Walter Trobisch, *Living with Unfulfilled Desires* (Downers Grove, Illinois 60515: InterVarsity Press, 1979), p. 21.

APASTOR'S SON and a farmer's daughter met one day at a Friends church in Kansas. Nobody could have guessed then just what God had in mind for those two, but that was all right because no one needed to know just yet. God already had it all worked out, and through the years He was faithful to show them what He had in mind, and they were faithful to obey. As time passed after this first introduction, *Roscoe Knight* and *Tina Patterson* became good friends. After awhile, their friendship turned into courtship and then into marriage. This was an important step toward fulfilling God's plan.

Roscoe, the son of Roy and Crittie Knight, grew up in Kansas and California. Living in the parsonage, he had gotten acquainted with several missionaries, often going along to the Los Angeles harbor to wave farewell as they sailed away on the huge ships. Roscoe hung onto the festive crepe paper streamers connecting ship and dock as long as possible. He thought, *Someday I will be a missionary and go far*

away, too. Because he loved excitement and adventure, he thought Alaska would likely be a suitable place.

He was an ambitious boy, and his parents encouraged their children. He worked at small jobs throughout his high school years, still having time for homework and sports. Despite the fact that he nearly drowned in a swollen Kansas creek when he was nine years old, he became a champion swimmer and diver*. He always loved a challenge and eagerly plunged into tasks others backed away from doing. If there was a job that needed to be accomplished, Roscoe's philosophy was, "Let's get on with it!"

Tina grew up often being the "chief cook and bottle washer" for the Patterson family because her mother, Ina, died when the four children were young. Her father, Ted, and his mother worked hard to keep the family fed and clothed. Tina learned early how to

*Details of this incident, as well as the account of the Knights' years in South America and Mexico, are in the new book, *Down a Winding Road* by Betty M. Hockett, a newly released volume in the Life-Story from Missions series published by George Fox Press. (See ad page 16.)

juggle school work, a part-time job, school activities, and work at home.

Roscoe and Tina's friendship had opportunity to blossom at Haviland, Kansas, where they both finished high school and Bible college. They did not have money for fancy dates with lavish entertainment, but they enjoyed taking long walks, sharing their hopes and dreams. Sometimes they could spare a few cents for a special treat at the drug store soda fountain.

When they were sure it was God's plan for them to spend the rest of their lives together, they announced their engagement. A few months later they were married in a small Methodist church filled to capacity with wedding guests. A friend sang an old hymn. The words were the promise Roscoe and Tina made to God: "Ready to go, ready to stay, ready our place to fill. Ready for service lowly or great. Ready to do His will." For most of their lives they had served God individually. That day they were eager to start serving Him together.

They moved to Idaho, attended school some more, pastored a small church, and



Betty Hockett is a free-lance writer, a preschool curriculum specialist, and has written and produced Christian education videotapes. She is author of the books published by George Fox Press in the Life-Story from Missions series. *Down a Winding Road*, a biography of Roscoe and Tina Knight, is scheduled to be released in December.



Roscoe and Tina Knight are presently beginning a term of service as chaplains of the Garden Tomb in Jerusalem. Roscoe is shown at the location believed to be the tomb left empty when Christ was resurrected.

READY TO DO HIS WILL

BY BETTY M. HOCKETT



worked in the community of Greenleaf. Roscoe and his brother Fred were partners in various projects, thinking, "How nice it would be if someday we could be in business together." Many years later, they realized that dream had been fulfilled, although in a different way than they had initially thought. "We *are* in business together—the business of spreading the Gospel to others," they said. "We just happen to be doing it in different places."

While they were in Idaho, Roscoe and Tina were certain God had a special task for them. They thought perhaps it meant serving Him in Africa. However, they discovered that was not what He planned.

Then they saw pictures of the Friends mission work in Bolivia, South America. Right away they decided they would not want to go there to be missionaries. "The countryside is too drab!" they said. It turned out, however, that this was God's plan for them, and soon they were appointed as missionaries to that very place.

They were in La Paz, Bolivia, only a few minutes when they began to feel right at home. They looked forward to starting a Bible training school for Aymara pastors. First, though, they endured the initial traumas connected with living in the extremely high altitude of the altiplano, and with learning how to cope with a foreign culture.

During the first year, they heard rumors of revolutions, then they lived through the real thing. In the midst of the uprisings,

though, many Aymara Indians were receptive to the Gospel. "Every service seems like a revival," Roscoe and Tina wrote home.

After diligent searching, the Knights and the other missionaries discovered the ideal location for the new Bible school. Hacienda Copajira, a large farm complete with buildings that would accommodate students and missionaries, and land for crops and pasture, became the site of the Helen Cammack Memorial Bible School. It opened in March 1947. For 15 years many Aymara men and women would come there for effective training. They were to go away prepared, not only to live a Christian life, but to become good pastors, pastors' wives, and church leaders.

Roscoe became the first farm administrator, with responsibility to oversee the many facets of the farm work. He was also instrumental in organizing a thorough home-visitation program that resulted in the salvation of several of the farm Indians. He and Tina taught Bible school classes, too.

Copajira and the Bible School proceeded into a worthwhile ministry before the Knights and their three children accepted the invitation to begin the new Friends mission work in the lowland area called the *Yungas*. This was a pioneer effort and one that exacted much energy, both spiritually and physically. God answered their pleas for guidance in how to plant churches in this rugged area. Continuous personal visitation, tent meetings, and Bible classes became the means by which hundreds of Aymara Indians heard about God, accepted Him, and continued on to become responsible Christians.

By the time God directed Roscoe and Tina to minister elsewhere, there were 28 congregations located throughout the steep hills and deep valleys in the *Yungas*.

Juli, Peru, was their next home. There they continued the mission work started by Paul and Phyllis Cammack. They discovered that the Indians who lived alongside Lake Titicaca were less responsive to the Gospel than those in the *Yungas*. However, God showed what He could do, and before they knew it there were more places wanting the Knights to come and hold tent meetings than there was time.

Ministry in Mexico City followed their years in Juli. This was a brand-new mission, and once again Roscoe and Tina found themselves adjusting to an entirely


new situation. Through prayer, perseverance, and personal contacts they won the confidence of the people. At the end of eight years, the Friends mission work in Mexico City was firmly established.

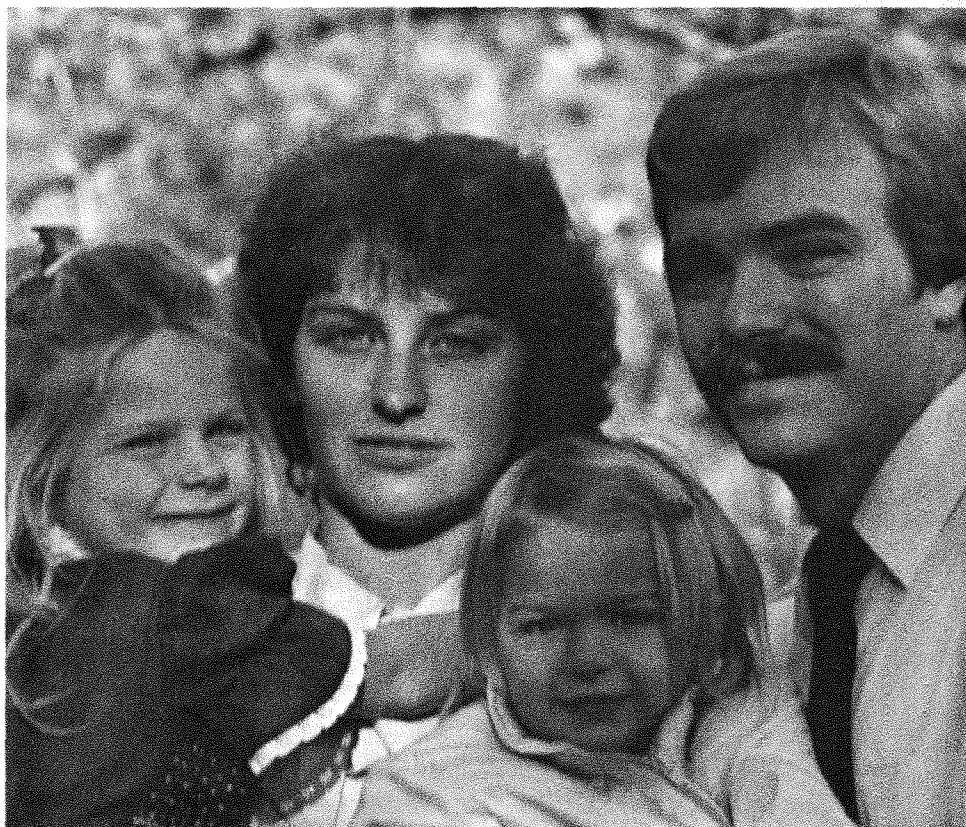
After that, the Knights knew it was time for a change in their lives. They considered different options, but when their furlough was over, they knew God was leading them back to Bolivia. This time it was to a different area—Santa Cruz, southeast of La Paz. Once again they were among Aymara Indians, many of whom had resettled there from the altiplano. Roscoe and Tina kept a heavy schedule that included teaching, preaching, and encouraging believers. Roscoe often traveled the difficult five-hour drive north to the new jungle colony named San Julian. Tina usually stayed in town to work with the children, youth, and adults.

When Roscoe and Tina came home the next time, they thought it might be the right year for retirement from full-time missionary service. God had other plans, though, and before long, they were on their way to Arequipa, Peru, one of the driest cities in the world. Their assignment this time included ministering to Aymara Indians who had migrated to this city and to encourage and train new missionaries.

IT WAS no problem for the Knights to keep busy. Holding meetings, teaching classes, and visiting in homes filled their time. They also traveled into the *Yungas* area to minister to the increasing number of congregations there. As had been the case in all of their missionary work, they experienced miracles of God's protection, direction, and strength.

As they came home from South America in 1984, Roscoe and Tina could look back on almost 40 years of fruitful ministry that had been interlaced with hard work, excitement, danger, uncertainties, disappointments, and discouragements. A hundred times brighter than those memories, though, were the remembrances of God's blessings and how He always kept His promises. The rewards of having obediently followed His leading were greater than they could ever have imagined possible on their wedding day. They said firmly and with absolute truthfulness, "We are happy God called us to be missionaries."

Furthermore, they looked *ahead* with keen anticipation, continuing to be "ready to go . . . ready to do His will!" 



David and Joyce Byrne with daughters Laura and Andrea

PERSONAL PILGRIMAGE



BY DAVID AND JOYCE BYRNE

DAVID AND JOYCE BYRNE, with daughters Laura and Andrea, leave in late December for the Spanish Language Institute in Costa Rica in preparation for mission work in Mexico. In this article, David and Joyce share concerning their personal pilgrimage toward missions.



Dave: It was a moment of realization. All four of us were standing, clapping, and singing, "*En la iglesia la gloria es para El*" (In the Church the glory is for God), and simply enjoying the fellowship and worship of that moment. Unlike other songs that were sung that Wednesday evening in the southern California Spanish-speaking church, this one we could both pronounce and understand. I realized we had begun to enter another culture.

The pilgrimage toward missions had begun for me in my early teens as I searched for some purpose to my life. My longing

was for God, and meeting Him changed my thinking about everything. Before I met Christ, I believed that there was no God and, therefore, no purpose to life, so that whatever I wanted to do was going to lead to the same empty end. Solomon would have known what I was going through. After meeting the Author of life, I found that not only in the Church, but also (as the second and third verses of that song proclaimed) in my home and in my life the glory belongs to God. My call to Him was to full-time service.

Joyce: I became a Christian as a high school student. Christ touched my life in a powerful way and gave me a great hunger for His Word, for knowing Him, and finding His will for my life. Several months later I was at a missions retreat, and as the speaker shared about God's desire to bring the world to Himself, I knew that God was calling me to missions. That was a time of great excitement for me. What a privilege to spend my life sharing with others the good news I'd found!

Dave: Joyce and I sometimes tease each other about who felt God's leading toward the mission field first. We were both young Christians, and the exciting thing was that the Lord was preparing us for serving Him as a team long before we were the least bit interested in each other.

The next two additions to our family, Laura and Andrea, help make our missionary team complete. One night Joyce was explaining to Laura that Missionary Internship is a place for missionaries to learn things. Laura said, "I'm a missionary," and with a grin of satisfaction she clarified, "A little missionary!"

So much has happened in our lives since our call to missions: marriage, college, seminary, children, and a four-year love affair with the Urbana Friends Church in Urbana, Ohio, where I pastored right after seminary. I told the church when I first went that we were planning on being missionaries, but my training would not have been complete without the lessons in prayer, church unity, perseverance, love, and zeal for the Lord that were taught me there.

Joyce: At times the wait seemed long. Looking ahead, I saw the years of education and training as an obstacle to cross quickly on the way to my real goal. But now as I look back on those college and seminary years from a new vantage point, things take on a different perspective. What valuable lessons God taught me in trust, love, and obedience!

Dave: I cannot remember a time in my life when I have seen more miraculous answers to prayer and provision for needs. Our pilgrimage across the Evangelical Friends Alliance this summer was an exciting time of seeing God's power at work. For example, our 1980 subcompact car with a model "4-55" air conditioner (put four windows down and drive 55) is not the typical luxury touring sedan. Before we left for a summer of travel to each one of the four EFA yearly meetings, we urgently requested prayer for the weather, our car, and our family's patience with each other while wandering through the hottest parts of the country during the hottest part of the year.

God was more than gracious to us.



Joyce: Being at all four yearly meetings this summer was a fantastic experience. The highlight of our summer pilgrimage was the people we met. The term "Body of Christ" took on new meaning as God's people ministered to us in so many different ways and places. Some ministered physically—like the couple in Iowa whose homemade ice cream refreshed us after a long day of travel, or a woman in New Mexico who surprised us by staying up until 2:00 a.m. to do our laundry so we could start the next leg of our trip with clean clothes. Others refreshed us emotionally with smiles, assurances of prayer, and special gestures of welcome—like a guided tour of Camp Tilikum's rope bridge and giant swing. One couple took our girls out shopping and let us use their home for a time of rest and quiet.

And the spiritual ministry! I would guess that no one in EFA this summer heard as many inspiring messages, met as many missionaries, sang as many choruses, or was dedicated in prayer as many times as our family. I had always felt so blessed and inspired after one yearly meeting, but attending four was wonderful!

All summer God seemed near in a very intimate way, like a fifth passenger in our car, always sensing the need of the moment. When I felt weary on one of our "up-at-

3:00-a.m.-to-beat-the-heat" days, God would paint the world before me in spectacular colors as the sun rose over the desert. When I felt insecure speaking at services, missionary meetings, banquets, or before mission boards, He would send somebody afterward with a hug and a word of encouragement. When I thought I couldn't sit on a hard seat for one more minute, He would, through one of His servants, provide a song or message so beautiful that the surroundings faded as I worshiped Him.

Ten thousand miles later, we reflect in gratitude upon the experience of our summer. Before the trip, we knew in our heads that we had the love, support, and prayers of the people of EFA. Now, we know in our hearts, and that makes going to Mexico a lot easier.



Dave: During July, Joyce and I attended the School of World Missions at Fuller Seminary, where we took two intensive courses designed to help us enter another culture and learn a new language. We learned a great deal inside those classrooms, and our experiences outside the classroom put spotlights on that learning.

To practice our language learning techniques, we were expected to say a few short sentences in Spanish to between 30 and 50 different Spanish-speaking people on the street. The idea was to become fluent in that little bit of Spanish and to get a good sense of how communication like "Hello, how are you? My name is David. I want to learn Spanish" would be received and corrected. However, our professor stressed that people are more important than assignments.

Near the end of the course, I was under a lot of pressure to finish up my assignments. I needed to find at least 30 sets of ears. Instead, I found an old man, squatting down, bent over, and leaning against a California palm tree. "How ya' doing?" I asked in Spanish. "Bad, very bad. I need a friend," he replied, and for the rest of my time in the park I sat with him, cried with him, prayed with him, and tried to be his friend. I had learned something important about priorities.

Joyce: Part of our opportunity while at Fuller was to participate in a Latin American church for a month. We plunged in with gusto—singing the Spanish songs with our "gringo" accents, enjoying the smorgas-

bord of Latin American dishes at a potluck dinner, trying to figure out what on earth the pastor was saying in his message. The welcome we found was warm and genuine, and we could not help but love these people. When it came time to leave, we knew that we had experienced some of what our professors called "bonding," because the good-byes came hard.

Dave: The first time I made contact with a group of young Spanish-speaking guys in the neighborhood, they were hesitant to talk to me. After awhile I figured out that they thought I was from Immigration, checking for illegal aliens. I assured them that I only wanted to learn Spanish. They were still hesitant . . . If I was not from Immigration, I must be a "narc" (narcotics cop).

We were told in class that whenever a person crosses a cultural barrier, there will inevitably be a certain amount of disorientation, confusion, and misunderstanding.



Joyce: The last phase of our stateside training involved a program through Missionary Internship entitled "Internship in Urban/Ethnic Ministry." Urban and ethnic it was—we found ourselves living in downtown Detroit, worshipping in a bilingual Latin American church. We had been looking forward to learning strategies that would be applicable to our ministry in Mexico City. Some of the "urban skills" we picked up were rather practical, things like relearning how to parallel park, or discovering the Farmers' Market and how to get bargains there, or getting tips from a neighbor about how to keep our car from being stolen. We found that we don't always learn exactly what we expect! But in addition to adjusting to city life and being exposed to Latin American culture, we did much thinking and studying about how to reach a city with the Gospel. We spent hours walking the streets of Detroit, looking for Spanish-speaking people. (We could often tell where they lived by looking for the houses with the prettiest flowers.) As we shared the Gospel with them, we thought ahead to the days when we would be doing the same thing in Mexico City, and wondered what the response would be. What difference can one family make in a city like Mexico City with its 18 million people? I am not sure, but we can preach Him, and share Him, and live for Him—and then we will see what Christ will bring of it. Our task is to bring glory to Him—in the Church, in our home, in our lives. ☐

CHINESE PASTOR VISITS FRIENDS

BY NANCY THOMAS

ANOTHER WINDOW to the Church in China opened when Pastor Jonathan Hsu toured the United States in September and October, speaking in several Christian colleges and churches. Hsu, a pastor in the People's Republic of China, lectured and answered questions on the state of Chinese Christianity at Malone College, Canton, Ohio; Westminster Seminary, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Friends Bible College, Haviland, Kansas; Friends University, Wichita, Kansas; and George Fox College, Newberg, Oregon. His son, Sunday Hsu, a medical doctor, accompanied him.

Pastor Hsu owns a rich heritage in the Friends Church. His grandmother worked with Friends missionary Margaret Holme and preached. His father studied medicine under Dr. George DeVol and became part of the staff of the Friends Mission Hospital in Luho.

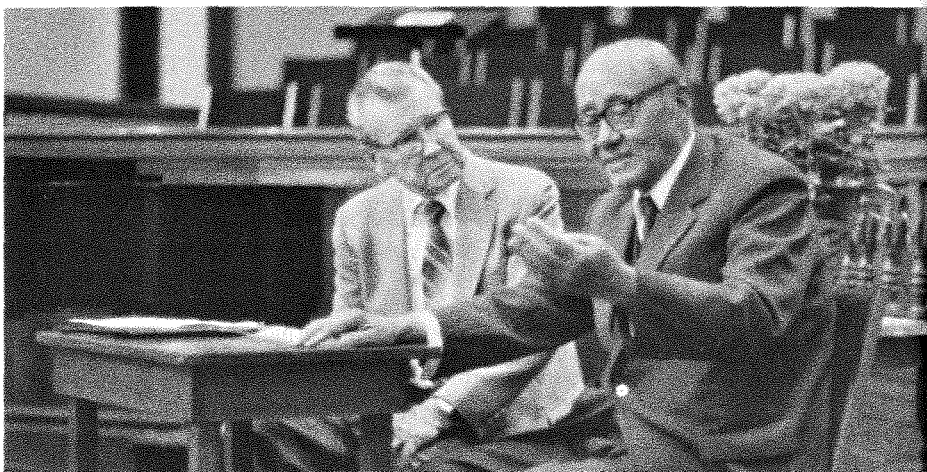
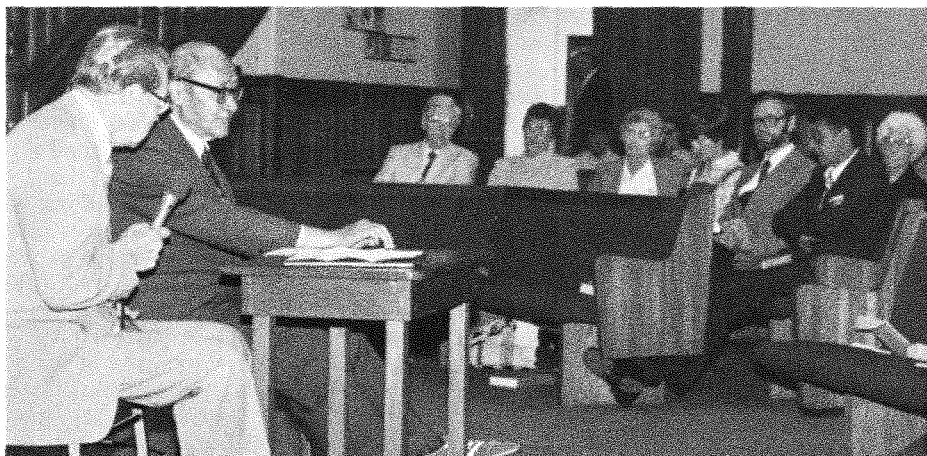
There in Luho, 80 years ago, Jonathan Hsu was born. Charles DeVol was his boyhood friend, and he remembers Catherine DeVol as "a little girl who cried a lot" (quote by Catherine DeVol Cattell). He studied at the Friends Academy in Luho, graduated from the North China Theological Seminary, and later did graduate work at Westminster Seminary in Philadelphia.

Returning to China in 1933, Pastor Hsu taught seminary classes, pastored, authored and translated several books, and edited the China Sunday school literature, used throughout China.

After the communist takeover in 1949, Jonathan Hsu continued his service to the Lord, working in a Christian bookstore in Shanghai. But in 1958 government authorities assigned him a new job, and Hsu spent the next eight years making paper and plastic flowers in a factory.

During the Cultural Revolution (1966-1976) Christianity was outlawed, church buildings taken over, and Bibles confiscated. Pastor Hsu lost his library of two thousand books, including, of course, his Bible. Reflecting on how Christians kept spiritu-

Nancy Thomas, Friends missionary to Bolivia presently living in Newberg, Oregon, is a regular contributor to EVANGELICAL FRIEND as writer of the "Certain Shaft of Light" column.



Dr. Ezra DeVol (left) and Pastor Jonathan Hsu from China at a Newberg, Oregon, Friends Sunday school class. The front row of the audience in top photo is Bill and Mary Green, Catherine Cattell, Nancy and Hal Thomas, and the speaker's son, Sunday Hsu.

ally alive during these years, Hsu told a Newberg Friends Sunday school class about an 80-year-old woman who memorized the entire book of Psalms in the two months before she lost her Bible.

In contrast to times of persecution during the Cultural Revolution, Hsu reports that Chinese Christianity is experiencing a new freedom. The government has returned many church buildings, and attendance at services is high.

Pastor Hsu attends Grace Church, one of 13 in Shanghai, a city of some 13 million people. The church holds three worship services to accommodate the people who want to attend; Hsu estimates over six thousand people worship there each week. Young people can be seen taking notes and later asking questions on the sermons.

Ministers have freedom to preach biblical evangelical messages with no interference.

Although denominations are outlawed and the churches fall under a government organization, the congregation in the city of Luho retains its "Friendly" characteristics; the Friends Mission was the only denomination working in Luho prior to 1949. The church has two weekly services and is attended by over a thousand people.

As evidence of growth, Pastor Hsu reported the birth of a new congregation in a village near Nanking. The group meets in a house, but, as only 60 people fit in the room, many others gather in the yard outside to participate, umbrellaed from the rain or sun. The government recently gave permission for the congregation to erect a building that will seat four hundred people.

COLLEGES & CHURCHES



Jonathan Hsu's brother Paul pastors this church.

Hsu views with skepticism reports that there are up to 35 million Christians in China. He puts the figure closer to six million people. These are baptized members of the over 3,300 recognized congregations. (This figure does not include Christians involved in house churches.)


The new freedom extends to publications and seminary training. Over 1.6 million Bibles have been reported printed in China since 1980 (*Christianity Today*, September 6, 1985, p. 46), and Hsu claims these quickly sold out. By 1986 a new edition of the Bible

with the new simplified Chinese characters will be printed, making God's Word more accessible to China's young people.

Pastor Hsu currently teaches in the theological seminary in Shanghai, one of ten in the country. The demand far exceeds the supply. Last term 150 young people from Shanghai applied for the 15 vacancies. Training pastors is one of Hsu's dreams; his personal vision is to thoroughly train one hundred people for spiritual leadership before he dies.

Asked about the causes of the growth of Christianity in China, Jonathan Hsu gives all the credit to God's Spirit, who kept and

nurtured His people through years of isolation and is now drawing many to Himself. Hsu concluded his session in Newberg Friends Church with a plea to "pray for China."

Hsu, together with his son, Sunday, will now spend several months in New York City before returning to China. Sunday plans to take some graduate medical courses at Columbia University, and Pastor Hsu will try to replace his personal library, lost so many years ago. He also plans to rewrite four of his own books, a task he will carry with him back to China, and he requests prayer for this work. 

AFTERMATH OF MEXICO EARTHQUAKES

BY ROD ROUNTON


MANY FRIENDS in the U.S. have inquired about the welfare of Mexican Friends in the violent earthquakes that occurred in September. We praise God that there was no death or injury to immediate families of Friends. Also the new Elektra church building and homes of Friends on the northwest edge of Mexico City are all fine. Some relatives of our families were lost in the quakes. One of our families that lived in a high-rise apartment building downtown and who were in it during the first quake, have had to move out because of damage to the building, but the Lord protected them from physical danger. Some of our young folks were downtown in school at the time of the first quake and, though some school buildings tumbled down close to where they were, the Lord was watching over them and their building did not sustain heavy damage.

Friends are helping others in the aftermath of the series of earthquakes that shook Mexico. They have been involved from the start, volunteering service to search/clean-up operations, preparing meals for those crews, collecting and donating special offerings to supply aid to victims and then dispensing that aid and ministering with a positive testimony for the Lord.

Monies that were taken up in special offerings by Friends here were soon depleted. But Friends in the U.S. also sent donations for relief that were and are being used by Friends here to continue to aid victims of the quakes. Because of funds already generously provided, we do not presently need additional money for relief work; if Mexican Friends are unable to administer all funds received, we will then channel remaining aid to be used here by World Relief.

There are 20 to 30 sections of Mexico City that are directly affected by the quakes. In those areas there are thousands of people who have set up camps of tent-like dwellings. These large "tent cities" have little or

no electricity, water, or sewer systems. In some areas, water is so scarce that people are forced to remove manhole covers in the streets to pull up buckets of gutter/sewer water for cleaning, bathing, and consumption. The contamination of the "tent cities" is greatly adding to the already bad health problems of the metropolis.

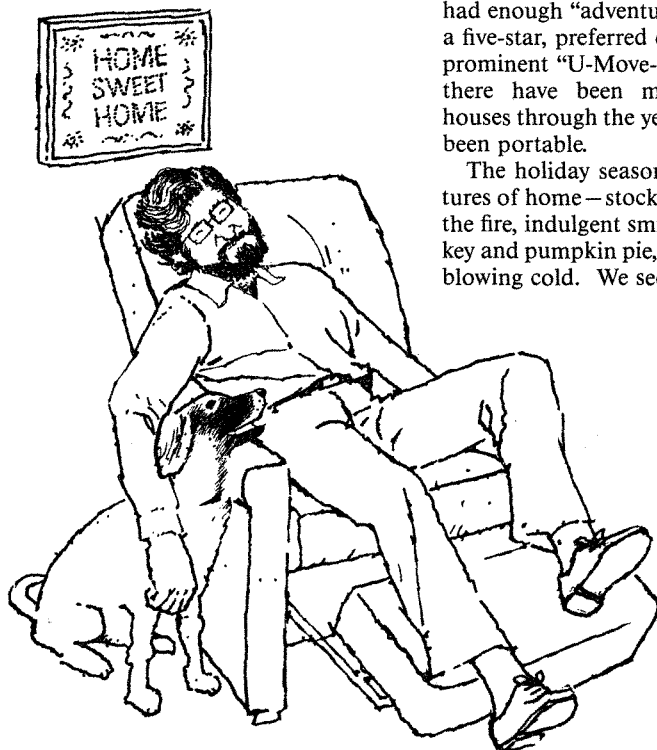
Because of the earthquakes we have had many opportunities to witness. Many people, during and since the disaster, have been challenged to consider their way of life. Not only ours, but all churches have been running much higher in attendance. People are curious to hear messages on the tribulation, Christ's second coming, and other prophecy. There is much more openness to the Gospel in general. Continue to pray for those whose lives have been shattered and who have lost almost everything. Pray for those who are spiritually hungry and seeking, that they shall find the One, Jesus, who "... Seeing the multitudes ... felt compassion for them, because they were distressed and downcast like sheep without a shepherd." (Matthew 9:36) 

Rod Rounton is a missionary in Mexico City with the Evangelical Friends Mission.

Going Home

Let's Be Friends

BY HOWARD MACY



I still stand puzzled for a moment when someone asks, "Where is your home?" A multiple-choice answer usually pops up: (a) Kansas (b) Oregon (c) Massachusetts (d) Illinois (e) California (f) none of the above. The last choice is the most truthful. As a preacher's kid I was something of a vagabond, and even in my adult life I have had enough "adventures in moving" to earn a five-star, preferred customer rating with a prominent "U-Move-It" company. Though there have been many apartments and houses through the years, home has, at best, been portable.

The holiday season paints attractive pictures of home—stocking feet propped up by the fire, indulgent smiles over too much turkey and pumpkin pie, warm shelter from the blowing cold. We see in home the comfort

national forebears. The knickknacks of affluence, too, add their "homey" touches in our hearts.

Frankly, charming houses, respectability, tradition, right thinking, and even self-righteousness have long appealed to us as adequate homes. That is why it should scarcely surprise us that Jesus' words to His would-be followers seem so harsh to those who truly hear them. He said that His followers must abandon father and mother, houses and lands (Luke 14:25-33; Mark 10:23-31). He challenged that they, like He, would have no place to lay their heads (Luke 9:57-58). He warned that they would be kicked out of their houses of worship, thrown in jail, and even killed—all by zealots who would think they were doing it for God (John 16:1-2). All of the warm shelters of "home"—houses, jobs, friends, family, reputation, even respectable religion—would have to be left behind for Jesus' sake. To follow Jesus, we have to leave home.

Jesus, however, does not intend to leave homeless the ragtag band who risk joining the caravan of the Cross. He invites them, instead, "Make your home in me, as I make mine in you." (John 15:4, JB) Jesus invites them to a new home, to the only true home. By leaving home, they can come home at last. In this way we can all learn the truth of the little chorus, "This world is not my home, I'm just a passin' through." But we can also discover that home is not "beyond the blue." It is in the Christ who made His home among us so that we might be at home in Him.

Jesus also promised that those who abandoned home would be repaid many times over in fathers and mothers, sisters and brothers. It is true. Those who have drawn near to Christ their Home have also drawn near to one another in a new family. In this "Blessed Community" (as Thomas Kelly called it) we finally discover how wonderful home can be.

For too long, many of us have been trucking the treasures of our hearts from one place to another, vainly looking for home. It is time now to walk away from all of that (yes, skip the yard sale) and plan to travel light so that we can find our home at last in the One in whom "we live and move and have our being."

Let's be Friends.

and safety for which we long. From the view of the wanderers' caravan winding by, the quiet towns, where heirs are snug in the houses their grandparents built, beckon seductively. There is a cozy magnetism, too, about being an insider at gatherings where the regulars share genealogies and religious experience with equal ease.

As a gentle rebuke, my wife once embroidered an old-fashioned "Home Sweet Home" sign for me to hang in my study carrel at school. It reminds me still how easily, in our desire for security and comfort, we look for home in places besides houses and lands. We want to "feel at home" in our jobs or with a particular circle of friends. We would prop our feet on the hearth of doctrinal purity and take comfort leafing through the family portraits of our denomi-





BY JACK L. WILLCUTS

1986, A Part of Eternity

Looking around the world, things seem bleak. That is not new. St. Paul found it so too: "even unto this present hour we . . . have no certain dwellingplace." (1 Corinthians 4:11)

Here is another melancholy outlook, in poetry:

To whom can I speak today?
The gentle man has perished.
The violent man has access to everybody.

To whom can I speak today?
The iniquity that smites the land
It has no end.

To whom can I speak today?
There are no righteous men,
The earth is surrendered to criminals.

This was written not in 1986 but supposedly about 4,000 years ago by an Egyptian contemplating suicide.

I don't know about the Egyptian, but Paul saw above his present prospects with a vision, a calling, a purpose, and a joy that became a common characteristic of those early disciples. This paradox in perspective was possible because Christians lived not in years but in eternity.


The Bible is filled with helpful examples of those who handled tough, hopeless times in obedient faith and faithfulness, not handwringing—Joseph in Egypt's prison; Paul under padlock. Jonah too, I suppose, shows one way to respond when we feel swallowed up and stifled with life. It turned him around, and a new year is a good time to check our directions too.

This may be the season to get a new grip on our confidence for the future. Not only the Middle East problems or the mushroom clouds on the horizon, but what about those who have certain expectations of themselves but they feel so inadequate, little to show for their religious efforts, weary of life's journey? The in-between time of moving from one year to another may be an appropriate time to tighten our trust in God. God is above circumstances, sees beyond them as well as being with us in them.

How can we turn our thoughts around? How can we rid ourselves of the rerun problems and failures we play over and over? Wintertime is an opportunity to reflect on the implications of our being the children of God. More time inside during winter evenings for reading, for praying, meditation, worship until our hearts are filled with the sense of the Spirit's leading and God's power over all. This is a time for getting ready for what may happen next.

We can be confident about the outcome of moving into a new year. Paul seems to be saying that a God-reinforced belief in one's own usefulness, worth, uniqueness, and destiny is more than a person playing a role, even a religious role. We are God-used. We become guided parents, pastors, teachers, farmers—

anything in which we find ourselves involved in the business of living—also as retirees or invalids. How much we need to recover the spiritual perspective that what we are is so much more important than what we do or where we go to do it.

To whom can we speak today? To the Lord! And then to others along the journey of life, those who have found Him and those who are still searching. He formed us to love and be loved, to know and be known as His. This is nice to know when it is so dark out there. 

'The Sense of the Meeting' in Transition


It is a rather nostalgic moment for me. This is the 173rd consecutive time I have written the editorial page in this magazine, and now my last time to do it.

Dean Gregory was the Editor-in-Chief when *Evangelical Friend* began in 1967. I was then named Executive Editor and Harlow Ankeny, Managing Editor. Dean Gregory, then General Superintendent of Kansas Yearly Meeting, died on May 17, 1970, leaving the responsibility for the magazine to Harlow and me. Due to his failing health, Dean had asked that I write the monthly editorials earlier that year. This has been a privilege I have enjoyed the past 15 years and 9 months. (Moving not long ago to a 10-month publication makes the difference in the total number of issues published, for those who are quick mathematicians.) I was named Editor in November, 1971.

Relinquishing this task now to Lon Fendall, the new Editor, I regard him an excellent choice for this ministry. The past six months he has become more and more involved in editorial direction as Associate Editor. We assure him of our prayers and best wishes in the responsibility.

Named last January by the Evangelical Friends Alliance Coordinating Council, Lon Fendall, 44, is on the faculty of George Fox College and Director of the Center for Peace Learning located on the campus. A George Fox College graduate, with a Ph.D. in History from the University of Oregon, he taught at George Fox College for three years before joining the staff of Senator Mark Hatfield for eight years.



Dr. Fendall and wife, Raelene, a school librarian, and their two children, Mark, 14, and Joyce, 13, live near Newberg and are active in the West Chehalem Friends Church where he has served as an elder and as choir director. A former Assistant Presiding Clerk of Northwest Yearly Meeting, he chaired a Yearly Meeting Long-Range Planning Committee for three years. He has filled a number of other positions in both Northwest Yearly Meeting and the Evangelical Friends Alliance. He served with World Vision, U.S., for two years, and is a former assistant editor of the *Northwest Friend*. Lon has been published in a number of Christian periodicals. 



Hispanics Told 'Forget Your Differences and Win Your World'

GARDEN GROVE, CALIFORNIA—Argentine-born evangelist Alberto Motteschi challenged more than 2,000 Hispanic evangelical leaders meeting in the Crystal Cathedral here to "put aside your doctrinal differences and inferiority complexes and get on with the task of winning U.S. Hispanics for Christ."

Motteschi, president of the Hispanic Congress on Evangelization that was held in October, said, "It is time for us, the Hispanics, to stop being a mission field and become missionaries ourselves." The evangelist condemned "our division, denominational pride and self-complacency which have seriously weakened our evangelistic mission."

Luis Palau, also an Argentine-born evangelist, expressed frustration with that part of the Church that is only concerned with social service. He added, "Many are preoccupied with helping the needy, but they don't want to preach the Gospel. I believe that evangelization is the greatest social service in the world because a conversion to Jesus Christ changes a life and it makes people more loving toward each other."

Other main speakers at the conference included Christian Broadcasting Network President Pat Robertson; Ted Engstrom, president of World Vision; Bill Bright, founder and president of Campus Crusade for Christ International; and Efrain Rios Montt, former president of Guatemala.

—Evangelical Press Association

National Black Evangelical Association Condemns Apartheid, Supports Sanctions

PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA—The National Black Evangelical Association, at its 23rd biennial board meeting, adopted a resolution condemning apartheid and supporting the use of economic sanctions and divestiture for fighting apartheid.

The resolution called apartheid "a system which assaults and defaces the image of God in man, thus posing a moral challenge to the world," and charged that the historic South African church has "aided and abetted this ungodly system."

The resolution noted that "the oppressed people in South Africa" are "defiantly resisting this assault by dying

and risking death, by being savagely beaten, tortured, imprisoned, and banned." Cited in particular for their roles in fighting apartheid were Bishop Desmond Tutu and the Rev. Allan Boesak.

"Sanctions and divestiture" were called for as means to combat apartheid, and the resolution called for "congressmen, national leaders, and the church of Jesus Christ worldwide to take action." —E.P.A.

Traveling Pontiff May Be Wearing Out His Welcome

ROME, ITALY—Pope John Paul II, known as the "traveling pontiff," may be wearing out his welcome as a guest worldwide. Although countries consider it a great honor to host the Pope, many feel such a visit would be too much of a strain on their pocketbooks.

Since he became pontiff in 1978, John Paul has made 27 pilgrimages and visited almost 50 countries. His visits have left many dioceses in debt, struggling to repay loans taken out to prepare for a papal visit.

"Unfortunately, dioceses feel they have to spend money on the Pope's visit," explained a Vatican official. "This often

includes quite unnecessary expenses that have become a tradition, like presents or elaborate decorations."

The tiny duchy of Liechtenstein put out \$1.5 million, more than a tenth of its annual revenue, to pay for the Pope's recent 10-hour visit.

For a two-day papal visit to Genoa, local parishes spent \$1.1 million. The money was used to decorate the city and to remove parking meters, which were considered an eyesore. Funds were also used to renovate an ancient church, which was used just for the occasion.

A group of priests from the Alpine region of northern Italy recently voiced their concern, saying, "We can't afford to invite the Pope." "It would be absurd to spend \$1.5 million on preparations for such a visit when there are still people living in huts here and many youths are unemployed," concluded the Rev. Antonio Bellina, a parish priest in Basagliapenta.

—E.P.A.

NAE Convention Announced

WHEATON, ILLINOIS—"Go . . . Liberate!" is the theme for the 44th annual convention of the National Association of Evangelists.

(Continued on page 20)

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(Roscoe and Tina Knight)

First Day News

QUICK QUAKER COMMENTARY

George and Dorothy Thomas, former missionaries to Burundi, Africa, and Rough Rock, Arizona, have been appointed as the first Evangelical Friends Mission missionaries to Rwanda. They will leave in February for a short term of service. Following the Evangelical Friends Alliance meetings in January, announcement will be made of another appointment for long-term missionary service for the new field in Rwanda.

Gary Wright, pastor of Haviland Friends Church for the past six years, will join the faculty of Friends Bible College, Haviland, Kansas, in January. He will be instructor of pastoral ministries and will also be serving as an evangelist in Mid-America Yearly Meeting.

Alvin Anderson, Malone College professor, and **Harry Mosher**, an Ohio insurance executive, visited Guatemala in November to explore location and begin plans with local Friends for the International Conference of Evangelical Friends. The conference is scheduled for October or November of 1987 in Guatemala City or nearby Antigua.

William and Esther May Thomas of Quincy, Washington, are spending six months in Manila to help finish the new Pasig church.

Roger and Lois Wood, Muncie, Indiana, were in Manila during November and December. Roger taught two courses at the Friends Bible Institute. January through March Woods will be in India doing teaching and conducting a survey that will assist in making long-range plans. The five-month trip began with a visit to the Taiwan mission. Roger is president of the Mission Board of Evangelical Friends Church—Eastern Region.

Stan Anderson, a fourth-year medical student at the University of Cincinnati, began a three-month internship at the TEAM Hospital in Dandeldura, Nepal, in December. He is one of 42 senior medical students to receive the *Reader's Digest* Medical Assistance Program award. A graduate of Malone College in 1980, he expects to receive the M.D. degree in June. He is the son of Alvin and Lucy Anderson of Canton, Ohio.

Sherman and Dorothy Brantingham have moved to Alliance, Ohio, following service as superintendent of Indiana Yearly Meeting. Sherman is minister of visitation at First Friends, Alliance, Ohio.

Maurice Roberts, Mid-America Yearly Meeting superintendent, and **Gary Fuqua**, president of the Foreign Mission Board, will make an administrative visit to Burundi December 21-January 2. The trip coincides with the sessions of Burundi Yearly Meeting.

Joe and Mary Kirby returned to Damascus, Ohio, Friends Church, where they have pastored for nine years, and started two prayer groups after attending a Church Growth Conference in Seoul, Korea, last August. The women meet Thursday morning at 6:00 and the men meet at 5:00 a.m. on Saturdays. When the Kirbys were in Korea, they were impressed as they visited Yoido Full Gospel Church, which has 500,000 members. They also visited Prayer Mountain and participated in prayer cell groups meeting in homes. The Damascus Church raised money to cover the trip, presenting it as a love gift.

FRIENDS FOCUS

FBC Auction Another Success

Quilts were once again a major attraction of the Friends Bible College Ladies Auxiliary Sale held in October. Of the \$51,000 receipts from the auction, \$23,000 was from the sale of

quilts. Income from this year's sale is a significant contrast from the first sale in 1932, which brought in \$300.

From the Youthquake '86 Planning Committee

The tragic Mexican earthquakes that caused extensive damage in Mexico City and the loss of many lives have prompted some important questions about Youthquake '86, slated for June 19-24 at Oaxtepec, Mexico.

Youthquake '86 is still on track for June 19-24 with no change in location. Oaxtepec suffered little damage. While Mexico City had extensive damage it is expected that cleanup will be largely completed by next June and much reconstruction will be underway, allowing the conference to go on as scheduled.

Concern has been raised by Friends in the United States regarding the similarity between "Youthquake" and "earthquake." We appreciate the genuine caring for the earthquake victims this question represents.

The Planning Committee's decision to continue using the name "Youthquake" should not be construed as insensitivity to the plight of those directly affected by the earthquake or to the Mexican people in general. We have been and will continue to be in contact with associates and Friends in Mexico regarding this concern. Should it become apparent that the name "Youthquake" is offensive or injurious to the Mexican people we will take appropriate steps. Our current information indicates that no offense has been taken and that it is unlikely offense will be taken.

Youthquake '86 is sponsored by the following groups whose financial support and leadership make the conference possible: California Yearly Meeting, Evangelical Friends Alliance, Friends General Conference, Friends United Meeting, Indiana Yearly Meeting, Iowa Yearly Meeting, Mid-America Yearly Meeting, North Carolina Yearly Meeting, Northwest Yearly Meeting, Rocky Mountain Yearly Meeting, and Western Yearly Meeting.

For additional information contact planning committee chairperson Royce Frazier, P.O. Box 88, Haviland, Kansas 67059; 316/862-5261, or assistant chairperson Tom Klaus, P.O. Box 703, Oskaloosa, Iowa 52577; 515/673-9717.

CHA Meets in Columbus

The Christian Holiness Association will host its 118th annual National Convention at the Sheraton Columbus Plaza, Columbus, Ohio, April 22-24, 1986. The organization, founded in 1867, has grown to include 17 denominations, 50 educational institutions, state and local associations, and a number of overseas affiliates. The theme for this year's convention will be "Holiness: An Expanding Influence."

Dr. Darius Salter, executive director of the Christian Holiness Association, states that additional convention information can be obtained by contacting the CHA central office, P.O. Box 68289, Portland, Oregon 97267; phone 503/654-6707 or 614/474-8896.

Friends Represented at Baptist World Congress

Norval Hadley, of California Yearly Meeting and a former superintendent of Northwest Yearly Meeting, was asked by the Friends World Committee for Consultation to represent Friends as a fraternal delegate at the 15th Baptist World Congress held in the Los Angeles Convention Center last summer. Norval was one of four non-Baptist denominational fraternal delegates present.

He shares in the FWCC Newsletter his response when asked to bring greetings. "I said that while our body was much smaller than theirs, many of us try to be as much like the Baptists as we can. And we note with gratitude that now some Baptists are becoming something like the Friends, particularly in their emphasis on the Gospel of Peace. In these days when the alternative to peace can be so horrendous, we who know the Prince of Peace must, as much as possible, have a united voice. At that point I heard some Baptist amens. I commended them for the leadership they give to all of us in witnessing to a needy world that the faith, hope, and love that comes from Jesus Christ is what really fulfills."

Friends Concern for Future of Family Farming

A series of three evening meetings was held in three Iowa Yearly Meeting churches in November. Sponsored by the Farm Crisis Subcommittee in behalf of Christian Social Concerns, the meetings focused on appropriate long- and short-term responses to be taken by individuals and what can be done together in the community of faith. Resource leader for the meetings was Don Reeves, a Nebraska grain and livestock farmer and member of Central City Friends Meeting. Don is chairman of Nebraska's Council for Farm Crisis Hotline and is on the board of directors of Bread for the World.

Christian College Brochure Available

A brochure aimed at high school juniors and seniors has been designed to help them consider attending Christian colleges that are academically sound and Christ-centered. Produced for the Christian College Coalition, the brochure answers questions college-bound juniors and seniors might ask. It also lists the names and addresses of the 72 four-year liberal arts evangelical colleges that are members of the coalition. A free sample copy will be sent to anyone asking for a "brochure" from Christian College Coalition, 1776 Massachusetts Avenue N.W., Washington, DC 20036-1996; phone 202/293-6177.

Christian Family Emphasis

Evangelical Friends Church—Eastern Region will distribute materials that suggest eight specific ministries that churches can have for families. With one emphasis for each month from January through August, the materials include family devotions, finances in the family, relationships, recreation, communication, sharing one's faith with other families, projects that families can enjoy together, and "family month" at church.

Quaker Publishers Pursue Cooperative Efforts

Quakers Uniting in Publishing (QUIP) met at Quaker Hill Conference Center, Richmond, Indiana, from October 27 to 30. Twenty-four Friends involved in the printing and distributing of Quaker materials were present. Appointed as clerk of QUIP was Barbara Mays of Friends United Press, Richmond, Indiana. Three Europeans were present for the meeting and the first European QUIP meeting is scheduled for August 12-15 at Old Jordan Guest House 20 miles outside of London.

'Christ's Everlasting Gospel' Is Focus of Gathering

New Foundation Fellowship will hold a gathering at George Fox College, Newberg, Oregon, February 15 and 16, 1986. Focus of the gathering will be on the message of George Fox and the early Quakers. Guest speaker is Chris Stern of New York Yearly Meeting, a traveling minister for the New Foundation Fellowship. The gathering offers an opportunity to hear and discuss "Christ's Everlasting Gospel," to reflect on its meaning in our lives, and to worship in the name of Jesus.

FAHE Conference at Malone

The campus of Malone College, Canton, Ohio, will be the site of the seventh annual conference of the Friends Association for Higher Education. Dates for the event are June 20-24, 1986. Information about the association and the conference are available from Friends Association for Higher Education, P.O. Box 18741, Greensboro, North Carolina 27419.

Coordination of Quaker Peace Efforts Sought

Representatives to the Friends Coordinating Committee on Peace met November 11 at William Penn House, Washington, D.C., to exchange news of Quaker peace initiatives and to discuss program initiatives for 1986—the United Nations Year of Peace. Bob Cory of Baltimore Yearly Meeting was named clerk and Angela Young of Mid-America Yearly Meeting assistant clerk. FCCP encourages exchange and cooperation between Quaker groups, especially Friends General Conference, Friends United Meeting, and Evangelical Friends Alliance. All yearly meetings are asked to appoint representatives to Friends Coordinating Committee on Peace during their 1986 sessions.

(Continued from page 16)

cals to be held March 4-6, 1986, in Kansas City, Missouri.

Highlights of the three-day event include Leadership Day, Point-Counterpoint debate about Liberation Theology, and the appearance of many outstanding evangelical communicators.

The three evening sessions feature Luis Palau, evangelist; Jack Hayford, pastor; and Don Hodel, secretary, Department of the Interior. Stephen Brown, pastor, Key Biscayne, Florida, will deliver the message Wednesday and Thursday mornings.

Luncheon speakers will include Ruth Senter, editor, *Partnership*; David Howard, general director, World Evangelical Fellowship; Gordon MacDonald, president, Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship; Myron Augsburg, pastor, Washington Community Fellowship in Washington, D.C.; Richard Dobbins, president, Emerge Ministries, Inc.; and others yet to be confirmed.

—National Association of Evangelicals

NCCC Allocates First \$100,000 Of Farm Aid Concert Receipts

NEW YORK, N.Y.—The National Council of Churches of Christ (NCCC) has designated 12 organizations that work with hungry farm families in 17 states to share the first \$100,000 in proceeds from the September 22 Farm Aid concert.

Farm Aid, Inc., asked the NCCC to disperse the \$100,000 after hearing from several farm groups of the council's work on farm crisis issues, said Mary Ellen Lloyd, director of the Domestic Hunger and Poverty Office in the NCCC's Division of Church and Society. "Every penny of the money is for food for farmers who

don't have enough cash to put food on their tables," Lloyd said. Farmers in financial distress "may have a freezer full of meat but not enough money to buy eggs or bread."

According to some estimates, one-fourth of the nation's 650,000 full-time farmers are under severe financial stress. Agricultural economists at the University of Illinois estimate that as many as 65,000 of the full-time farmers are so deeply in debt that they face loss of their homes within two years.

—E.P.A.

Wycliffe Closes Out a Country

LA PAZ, BOLIVIA—For the first time in its 51-year history, Wycliffe Bible Translators and The Summer Institute of Linguistics have reached their objectives in a given country. A special ceremony on September 4 marked the completion of 30 years of work in Bolivia.

Bolivia's Minister of Education attended and presented SIL director Perry Priest the country's highest possible honor to an organization, the Condor of the Andes Award. The current president of Bolivia, Victor Paz Estenssoro, had invited SIL to start work in Bolivia in 1955.

Since then, the Wycliffe team serving under SIL has concentrated on linguistic analyses and applied linguistics for Bolivia's 24 language groups. As a result, the New Testament and some Old Testament passages have been translated into 13 languages and smaller parts of the Bible into five more. Other mission agencies have taken responsibility for the six other non-Spanish languages.

—Missionary News Service

NAE Board Passes Resolutions On Music Lyrics, Federal Deficit

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS—Resolutions on rock music lyrics and the federal deficit were passed by the National Association of Evangelicals Board of Administration.

The NAE resolution titled "Ratings on musical lyrics," says, "Parents and citizens are duly alarmed by the lyrics of explicit and perverted sex and violence on audio and visual musical media which are openly marketed for children and teenagers. Because the freedom of speech guaranteed in the First Amendment is based upon responsibility for the common good, we support the organized efforts that are calling for ratings on music media as a guide for parents and protection for the young."

The resolutions called for specific action: "Our preference is that the music publishers exercise their responsibility by setting up a self-rating and self-governing system," the resolution stated. "If they do not, we urge Congress to enact legislation requiring the ratings consistent with its constitutional responsibility to protect the health, safety and welfare of its people, including our youth."

The NAE Board also passed a resolution on the federal deficit, calling the "runaway Federal Deficit" a "moral issue that threatens our future." The resolution stated, "Our freedom as well as our quality of life is at stake."

The resolution on the deficit itemized reasons for concern. Economic recession will result in lost jobs, especially impacting "women, youth and ethnic minorities," according to NAE. "An inflationary dollar will affect first the poor, hungry, sick and aged," explained the resolution, and "a loss of world confidence in the world market will make us a debtor nation."

The resolution promised, "To mortgage our future today is to invite governmental intervention tomorrow which will have social and spiritual as well as economic and political repercussions. Paul, in Romans 13, instructs Christians to avoid debt because it restricts their freedom. The same principle applies to our federal debt."

—E.P.A.

Stryper Wants the Image of Secular Bands, Minus the Sin

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA—Stryper is a heavy metal rock band. They dress outrageously, play loud and fast, and throw things at their audience. But Stryper is also a group of Christians, committed to ministry, and now embarking on their first national tour to promote their new album, "Soldiers Under Command."

"We're for real," said drummer Robert Sweet in a recent interview. "People hear about us without having seen us and conjure up a choir-boy image. But we really rock, we put 100 percent into our music. We just sing words of life instead of words of death."

Sweet doesn't want Stryper to be labeled as a religious band. "Call us metal missionaries or rock disciples, not a religious band. People that have paid money for a concert aren't gonna settle for just a message without rock and roll. We're just trying to reach people in a positive way."

—E.P.A.

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Why Cults Succeed Where the Church Fails

Ronald M. Enroth and J. Gordon Melton
Brethren Press, 132 pages, paperback,
\$6.95.

Two evangelical students of cults discuss (and sometimes disagree) the nature and activities of cults. They agree that cults meet needs for love and friendship, a word of authority, and opportunity for commitment not found in churches—a sad comment. Especially is this superiority true with young people, with whom they agree the churches are doing a poor job. They also agree that joiners of cults pay slight attention to the teachings of the cults, indicating the doctrinal illiteracy of at least those church members attracted to the cults—another sad comment on the churches.

Finally, they recommend that in every congregation there should be a person who volunteers to become an expert on cults and to serve as a counselor for anyone seeking help. At the end is a carefully annotated list of readings. This is a most helpful book.

—Lauren King

Practical Spirituality

Francis B. Hall
Print Press, 143 pages, paperback, \$4.95.

Practical Spirituality is a refreshing book. It begins with a compelling chapter on prayer. The chapter compelled me to face the spiritual reality of the world we live in and it motivated me to pray. To pray that the Spirit of Christ might permeate my life and my environment and the world.

RESEARCH INTERNS

Three positions are available assisting FCNL's lobbyists with legislative work. These are eleven-month paid assignments beginning September 1, 1986. Duties include research, writing, monitoring issues, attending hearings and coalition meetings, maintaining clipping and issue files. Applications close March 15, 1986.

For information, write or call:

Friends Committee on National Legislation
245 2nd Street SE
Washington, DC 20002
202/547-6000

The chapter reminded me of the power of prayer and the hope and strength that comes with prayer.

Subsequent chapters focus on contemplation, Christian community, retreats, living a centered life, a Quaker theology of social action, and Christian Quakerism as compared to Universal Quakerism.

Francis Hall was a Quaker involved in many significant endeavors. First and foremost, though, he was, as Jim Newby says in the introduction to the book, "a man of God, who sought to discern the spiritual condition of humanity, and then tried to help it. He witnessed the decline of modern culture and the threat of war to the peace of the world, and in the light of this loss sought to turn people inward to the cleansing stream of the living Christ." (p. xi)

This compilation of his essays is a fitting tribute to his memory.

—Margaret J. Benefiel

Understanding Mourning

Glen W. Davidson
Augsburg Publishing House, 110 pages,
paperback.

Understanding the mourning process is essential if one is to be able to deal with a significant loss and then find a way back to a reorganized life. This explicit, well-written book will help those who use it to do that.

—Philip E. Taylor

Worldly Christians: A Call to Faith, Prayer, and Action

Jerry Folk
Augsburg, 159 pages, paperback.

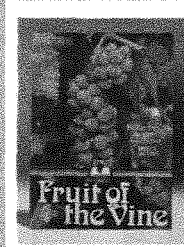
Designed to help answer the question "What is a Christian?" the book contains concepts with which Friends will agree. However, the author is obviously writing from a different theological base from Friends.

He is clearly concerned with the issues of peace and justice. Most readers will

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probably agree with his concerns, but many will disagree with part of his ideas as to how our Christian witness should be given on behalf of righteousness. He commends some who, because they are "persuaded that they are being called by God to make this testimony," have committed acts of civil disobedience. The author's ideas of who some of the "modern-day prophets" are will not be agreeable with all readers. Evangelical Friends will also not necessarily approve of the suggestions Folk offers concerning organizations to join on behalf of peace, mercy, compassion, community, and justice.

Readers who are evangelical Friends will not find the book to be a total lost cause, but they will probably find themselves "sifting and sorting" as they read.

—Betty M. Hockett

The Life and Ministry of Charles G. Finney

Lewis A. Drummond
Bethany House, 261 pages, paperback.

Finney was the greatest evangelist in 19th-century America, and the originator of most of the practices of present-day evangelists like Billy Graham. Along with the Methodists he deeply influenced evangelical Quakers, especially in their understanding of Christian perfection. This book is an interesting and often moving account of Finney's beginnings, development, and contribution to God and His Church. If you like to know something of what has shaped us—and who—here is a good source. Unfortunately this book is marred by poor writing, even by occasional grammatical errors. The editors failed to do their job.

—Lauren King

DEAN SOUGHT

Pendle Hill, a Quaker Center for Study and Contemplation, is seeking qualified applicants for Dean of Studies and Student Affairs.

Position available September 1, 1986. The Search Committee welcomes hearing from candidates by February 1, 1986.

Further information available by calling Robert Lyon at (215) 566-4507 or writing to:

J. Bernard Haviland
Deans Search Committee
Pendle Hill
Wallingford, PA 19086

Social Drinking

Not long ago I complained at length with a Christian friend about social drinking concerns and the obviously lower level of commitment among Friends to teaching and practicing total abstinence from alcoholic beverages. The three articles in the October issue of the EVANGELICAL FRIEND spoke beautifully to the concern! Super! It is time once again to deal creatively and spiritually with the question of drinking—from the pulpit, in the classroom, and in home sharing groups.

Evangelicals in general are developing a major broken chink in our spiritual armor that needs repair. We need great love and firmness and understanding in helping newer Christians develop a lifestyle where they are best protected from Satan's attack. A lifestyle of total abstinence makes a great deal of biblical and common sense!

RON STANSELL
Newberg, Oregon

Your series of three articles in the October issue of the EVANGELICAL FRIEND were right on target! I guess I've been guilty of a head-in-the-sand stance in recent years. I wasn't sure that this type of article was appropriate for readers of the EVANGELICAL FRIEND—until I made "local inquiry."

In conversation with a few of my peers, I discovered that maybe this series of articles should have been written 10 or 15 years ago and maybe the sickening statistics that I uncovered could have been averted.

I was told that if I am to "condemn" members of the Friends Church who drink (socially or otherwise) I am also condemning Christ, St. Paul, and George Fox. I have no statistics as to their "drinking" habits, but it seems pretty clear to me that 20th century Christians (Quakers) ought to see that there is no gray area in this alcoholic generation. Even most Protestant churches that have communion services now use grape juice instead of an alcoholic beverage. I found an interesting statistic in my reading a few years ago that said 40 percent of men who take communion regularly ultimately become alcoholics (drunkards).

I was also told that all three of the articles were approached from an emotional point of view rather than cold, hard facts. It looked to me like the writers had done their homework—complete with footnotes.

What ever happened to Query 5? Until someone can give me an answer, I may just return to my ivory tower with another bucket of sand.

MELVIN KENWORTHY
Portland, Oregon

Thank you very much for the informative and much-needed articles on social drinking in the October issue of the EVANGELICAL FRIEND. Especially helpful was C. W. Perry's article "Social Drinking . . . Why or Why Not?" It provided well-thought answers to share with friends and fellow-believers. As a nondrinker I have at times *felt* in the minority among Christian friends (although I am sure this is not actually the case) and have not had firm, biblical answers to give for my particular convictions. This particular article provided these answers for me and Laurie.

As the problem of chemical abuse has come to the forefront over the past few years and has even permeated the schools that I have been involved in as a teacher, I have seen the effects firsthand in some of my students and certainly in their families. Just this last year two students from Sentinel High School here in Missoula where I teach have been killed in alcohol-related traffic accidents. One was just a freshman, the other a junior. It saddens me to see this happen to anyone, but to such young kids is even more tragic. I have come to the firm belief that total abstinence on the part of Christians is the only clear course of action. Thanks again.

ROBIN T. ANKENY
Missoula, Montana

I want to applaud your October issue of the EVANGELICAL FRIEND with its three excellent articles about social drinking and the Christian.

This is from one Christian family who has gone through a great deal of pain in regard to our son's alcoholism. Because of an alcohol-related accident in which his friend was killed, he entered an alcoholic treatment center. My husband and I participated in this, because alcoholism is a family disease. It does not affect just one member of the family. We learned a lot about alcohol and drug addiction, and everything I read in these articles by C. W. Perry, Lauren King, and Don Murray are right on!

C. W. Perry stated in his article that there would be no other malady that kills



as many people as drinking drivers do but what we would all be trying to bring a halt to it. How very true!

We had taught our son about right choices, and we never had alcohol in our home or used it because we felt it would teach our children something we did not want them to learn. I felt that I was fairly tolerant of other Christians who choose to drink on the basis of their free choice in Christ. So while my actions were one of total abstinence, my mind was not. This has changed!

There is alcoholism in the history of our family and as these articles clearly bring out, statistics prove there is a very great chance of becoming an alcoholic with that family history. So we taught total abstinence. I also believed strongly in the adage, "What I do in moderation, my children will do to excess."

Knowing firsthand what excessive drinking can do to one family, regardless of our teaching and example, I am terrified as I listen to many Christians defend their social drinking. I agreed totally and passionately with the quote from C. W. Perry's article, "Alcoholism starts with social drinking, alcohol is a defective product and that the Christian's response should be total abstinence." From all I learned about the damage to brain cells and our thinking from alcohol, I can see no way in which alcohol can enhance one's walk with God.

Dan McCracken stated in his Antecedents: "It touches our world and we must respond." It has touched my world and I must respond!

Thank you for these very timely articles.

LAVELLE STEIGER
Silverton, Oregon

Appreciation

I am writing to express my thanks for the EVANGELICAL FRIEND! The Fellowship for Evangelising Britains Villages had its roots in English Friends so that many of your articles have been most relevant to our work. I have made use of items in our own Conferences and also as I have ministered among evangelical Friends in Ulster.

ARTHUR BRYERS
Colchester, England

Opinions expressed by writers of articles or letters in the EVANGELICAL FRIEND are not necessarily those of the editors or of the Evangelical Friends Alliance. Due to space limitations, letters may be condensed. Letters should be held to 300 words, preferably less.

A HOLY LAND CHRISTMAS

BY NANCY THOMAS

My friend Tina is going to spend the next six months in Israel. On Christmas Eve she plans to worship with other Christians in a shepherds' field outside Bethlehem. Perhaps it will be the very one where the angels made their amazing announcement so many years ago.

When I first heard Tina's plans, my romantic imagination took over. I envisioned myself, someday, seated under a starry sky, on a hillside near the very place Jesus was born. Cold air washes over my cheeks and ruffles my hair, like the presence of angels. I imagine the goosebumps.

In college my roommate, Barbara, traveled to Israel for a term of study. I followed her itinerary with longing (and a little envy), visualizing the thrill of standing on the shores of Lake Galilee, praying on the Mount of Olives, sitting on some hill and reading the Sermon on the Mount. Surely God must feel near in that setting. I listen to the hymn "I Walked Today Where Jesus Walked" with a sense of wistfulness. For me, an actual trip to the Holy Land is still a "someday-maybe" proposition.

But as I was thinking of Tina's trip, feeling her excitement, a certain shaft of light buzzed into my brain. God spoke to me one of His names: Immanuel. "The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel"—which means 'God with us.' (Matthew 1:22; Isaiah 7:14) *God with us.*

I thought again of how God came to us in the form of a helpless baby, experienced growing pains, became a man, breathed our air, ate our food, felt our pain, died for our sin—and all of this in the context of a specific time and place. Yet because God came to us specifically once, He is here for us now, wherever we are. Time and place become irrelevant.

Is the wonder of Jesus Christ with me in Newberg, Oregon, December 1985, any less than that of His appearance in a manger 2,000 years ago? Is His presence somehow less in Wichita, Kansas, than in Bethlehem? Do wise men, women, and

children in Willoughby Hills, Ohio, bear gifts less significant than those of the dark-skinned journeyers who followed a star? No, I think not.

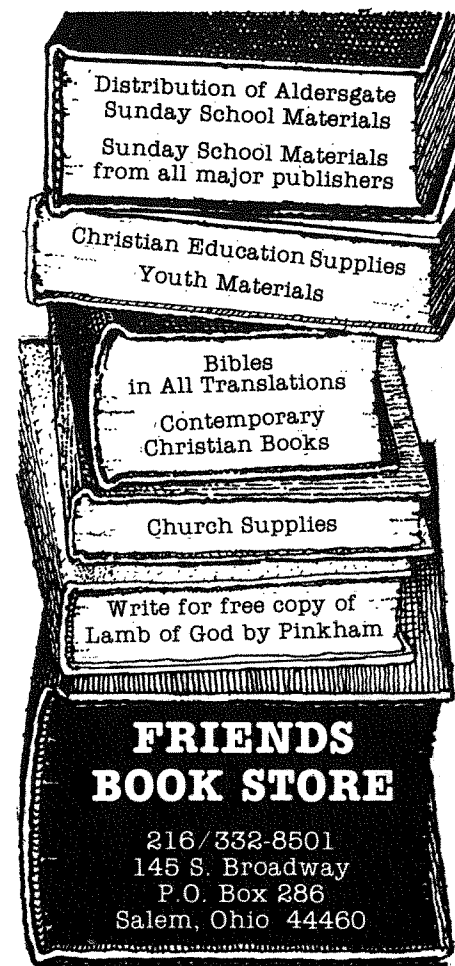
The original Christmas story is beautiful and we do well to read and reread it. God *did* come to a definite people, in a real place, at a point in time—and those facts are extremely significant. I still want to visit Israel.

But the wonder for me this Christmas is not so much that He came once; it is that He is here now. The good news that the angel sang one night on that Judean hillside really is "good news of great joy that will be for *all* the people." (Luke 2:10) Because His name is Immanuel, my house becomes a holy land and my heart a place where angels sing.

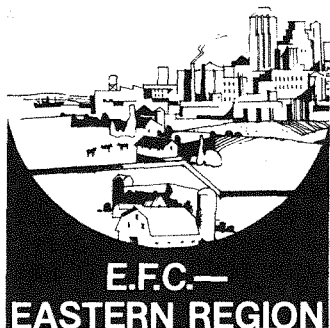
Immanuel: God with us.

Here.

Now. ☐



FRIENDS CONCERNS



EFC — ER Happenings

NORMA FREER completed deputation to Eastern Region churches during three months home assignment and departed for another term of missionary service in India. She left Pittsburgh on Saturday, October 26, to return to Chhatapur, where she heads the Christian English School with 476 children enrolled. She has completed 40 years of mission work in India, serving in a variety of ways—as secretary, business manager, treasurer, and now headmistress of the school. The school was started in 1976 with only two classrooms and several tents. Now classes are offered through grade 9, and the newly constructed building with 14 classrooms is greatly appreciated by students, parents, and teachers.

Friends wishing to correspond with Norma may address her at Christian English School, Chhatapur, M. P., India 471-001.

JAMES ROBERTS, missionary to Bolivia under Northwest Yearly Meeting now on furlough, traveled to Ohio and Michigan for 10 days in November to speak on Missionary Outreach. During his stay, he spoke at the Malone College Missions Conference (11-15), at Canton First Friends, Poland Bethel, Willoughby Hills, Tecumseh, and Battle Creek. The Robertses live in Nampa, Idaho, during this year of home assignment.

KITS TO HELP FIGHT PORNOGRAPHY were mailed to all Friends churches in Eastern Region as a follow-up by those who attended the third annual Consultation on Pornography in Cincinnati in September. Jerry Wenger, Terry Knighten, and Craig Henry have formed a Task Force to help Christians speak up in their local communities and stop the menace of pornography. Jim McLane, plant manager for Coca-Cola and member of Orange Road Friends Church, is assisting as a consultant.

EFA COMMISSION MEETINGS will be held January 11-15 in Canton, Ohio. Personnel on the Planning Committee include Joe Kirby, Ron

Johnson, Bruce Burch, Joyce Hendershott, and Lucy Anderson. Sessions for the Commissions will be held at Canton First Friends Church, but on Sunday morning, January 12, arrangements will be made to have Friends visit area Quaker churches.

J. ALLEN PETERSON, nationally known author and speaker, will be guest leader at two mini-conferences using the topic "The Pastor's Family." On December 3 the pastors of northern churches will meet at Holiday Inn in Hudson, Ohio, and on December 5 pastors of southern churches will meet at South Hill, Virginia, Holiday Inn, with the same format for the two conferences.

JOHN WILLIAMS, JR., head of the Canton First Friends pastoral team, was one of seven persons from the Akron/Canton area invited by World Vision to travel to West Africa for an 11-day visit. The purpose of the trip was to participate in the distribution of food that was donated to relieve suffering in drought-stricken countries and to survey further needs.

CALENDAR

Jan. 11-15 EFA Commission Meetings, Canton
Jan. 13 Malone classes begin, 2nd semester
March 7-9 Sponsors of Youth Retreat, Van Wert
April 7-11 EFC—ER Pastors Conference, Blackstone, Virginia.

Focus on Malone

1985 HOMECOMING QUEEN was Shawn Headings, a senior social work major from Plain City, Ohio, with a concentration in Christian ministries. She was escorted by Michael Riley, biology education major from Greenville, Pennsylvania. Attendants in the Queen's Court were Michelle Taylor and Mark Winn; Kathy Witmer and Randy Holopeter; Sara Aston and Tom Master-son; Jim Shaffer and Ann Cattell; Jeri James and Herb Jones.

GLEANNING DAY was observed on Saturday, October 26, as students volunteered to pick up leftover crops in area fields. The food they collected was transported to local food kitchens operated by the Stark County Hunger Task Force. Dan Cormany coordinated the project on the Malone campus.

TWO NEW TRUSTEES named to the Board are Bobby J. Murphy, attorney-at-law in Barberton and a 1972 Malone graduate; and Paul Demshar of Ashtabula, Ohio, who is a 1972 graduate and a CPA.

SCOTT AND HOLLY OESLAGER have been named as Roll Call chairpersons for the Alumni Fundraising

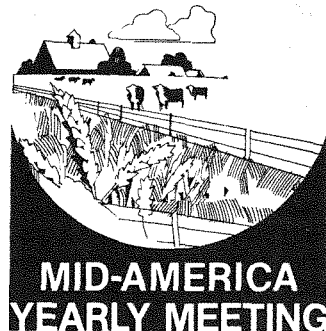
this year. Scott is Ohio State Senator for Stark County and former Public Affairs Director for Malone (1978-81), and Holly, a 1977 Malone graduate, is district sales manager for Dealers Alliance Corporation in Columbus.

BYRON L. OSBORNE, president emeritus of Malone College, shared his personal recollection of memories with a group of students, faculty, and friends, in an evening of remembering on October 17 in the Performing Arts Hall. Having recently celebrated his 90th birthday, Dr. Osborne impressed the audience with his clear recounting of details and vivid story of the school's founding and the subsequent moves—both to Euclid Avenue in Cleveland and to 25th Street in Canton. The former president told of forming a "fellowship of intercession," with 300 people praying fervently that the school would survive. "I give praise to God today," he said, "because God saw us through and answered our prayers. In those dark days I turned to the Scriptures and studied Luke 11, where Jesus taught the disciples to pray. His model prayer blessed my heart, and I held fast to the promise: 'Ask [and keep on asking] and it shall be given you.'"

At the conclusion of the program, President Werkema dismissed with a prayer of gratitude for God's continued blessing upon Malone College, for the vision and courage of J. Walter and Emma Malone, and for the faithfulness of Byron Osborne and succeeding leaders.



Byron and Olive Osborne



MAYM 1985 Women's Retreat

Over 320 women traveled "west" to Dodge City for the annual Friends Women's Retreat October 11-13. The churches of the Colorado and Western areas were the hostesses to a weekend entitled "Adventure of Kingdom Living." Jan Wood from Seattle, Washington, was the guest speaker. All were encouraged and challenged to realize that even today, right where we are, we can begin to experience living in the kingdom of God. Saturday night banquet was highlighted by a concert by Delmar and Karen Lousch. As always, the weekend was packed with visiting, fun, and challenges.

Notes from Friends Bible College

The FBC Ladies' Auxiliary Sale was a success again this year. Donated and handmade items and gifts from area merchants were auctioned at a total of more than \$51,000—the second highest figure in the sale's 54-year history. Next year will mark the first "Saturday Sale." The sale will be held October 11, with the Alumni soccer game Friday evening. The game will be followed by an open pit barbecue hosted by the Alumni Association.

The FBC Christmas Wreath began 29 years ago, the result of a suggestion by Weston F. Cox, who was then the director of public affairs. The fresh nine-foot evergreen wreath is

Evangelical Friend

Tax-deductible contributions help make it happen.

The EVANGELICAL FRIEND is funded from four sources: the budgets of the Evangelical Friends Alliance yearly meetings, subscriptions, advertising, and gifts. Each year we count on voluntary contributions as a part of the financial package that makes this magazine possible. Your support of this aspect of Friends ministry can be mailed to:

EVANGELICAL FRIEND, Box 232, Newberg, OR 97132

now displayed in Broadhurst Student Center. Students, faculty, and staff eagerly await the arrival of daily cards and contributions as greetings come from friends around the world. The Christmas Wreath has become an FBC tradition and a vital part of the financial support of the college.

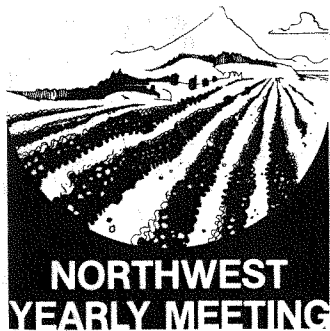
Another event that is becoming a tradition at FBC is the Concert Choir's Christmas program. Last year was the choir's first presentation of this concert entitled "A Quaker Candlelight Celebration of a Holy Night." There will be two concerts this year, Sunday, December 15, at 6:00 and 8:15 p.m., in Hockett Auditorium. The choir members will be dressed in traditional Quaker costumes and will carry candles in this musical celebration, which will feature a vibraharp prelude by Rowena Holliday, several vocal solos, and instrumental accompaniment.

Friends University News

Richard Felix, president of Friends University, has announced an 8 percent increase in enrollment as compared to last year. There are 874 enrolled for the fall semester. The greatest increase is in Friends' new Human Resources Management Degree Completion Program.

"Forever Friends" was the theme of this year's homecoming. These events began October 25 with the Jazz Band Concert, and an afterglow in the student lounge hosted by the alumni council. Saturday events included a coffee with the president, lunch, the football game at Adair-Austin stadium, Friends vs. Kansas Wesleyan, a victory party, and the Homecoming Banquet Saturday evening.

Christian Emphasis Week was October 28 through November 1. Ken Medema was the guest speaker. He is involved in a full-time singing ministry.



Around Northwest Yearly Meeting

FRIENDS YOUTH MIDWINTER will be held December 28-January 1 at Twin Rocks Friends Camp, Rockaway Beach, Oregon. Tim Tsohantaris, George Fox College chaplain, will be the featured speaker, with

the conference focusing on Christianity as a lifestyle. "Building Christian Relationships" will be a class taught by Mark Eaton of Reachout Expeditions. Boyd Morris, presently a student at Western Evangelical Seminary, will teach "Giving an Answer for Your Faith." The cost for Midwinter is \$70, or \$66 if preregistered by December 15.

CALENDAR

Stewardship Board Meeting
January 31-February 1
Midyear Board Meeting
February 7-8
Executive Council—February 21-22
Friends Men Retreat, Twin Rocks
March 7-9
Friends Men Retreat, Quaker Hill
March 21-23
Friends Youth Volleyball
Tournament—April 4-5
Ministers Conference—April 7-11

Friends for Families

For the past two years the Lord has placed a strong burden on the hearts of Ron and Phyllis Hays of the Netarts Friends meeting on the Oregon coast to prepare a safe place for hurting and homeless children so that they could receive the time, nurture, protection, and spiritual guidance needed to make better decisions for their lives. Ron, a hospital emergency program director and a trained counselor, believes Christians must take more seriously the command of Jesus Christ to care for the widows, orphans, poor, and oppressed. The Lord has been preparing other believers and has brought several of these concerned Christians together within the fellowship of Netarts Friends Church.

Four couples from the church have formed a nonprofit corporation called "Friends for Families." The vision is first to have various facilities locally to: 1. Minister to children who need emergency shelter care, long-term Christian foster care, or adoption. 2. Supply safe homes for unwed pregnant girls providing them with alternatives to abortion and giving them the support they need to make correct decisions. 3. Supply emergency refuge for hurting families, who for various reasons have lost their homes and have no place to go. 4. Provide a prison-release program to give support and guidance to those who really want to live correctly but need help to get on their feet.

Currently, Friends for Families is opening a renovated six-bedroom, three-bath, shelter care home, which will provide emergency care for children living in the north Oregon coast region. Harry and Sophronia Selby will be the directors of this home. Harry is the former youth pastor of North Valley Friends Church in Newberg. Space is kept available for a Friends child from anywhere within Northwest Yearly Meeting who may need care.

Prayer and financial support are requested for this ministry. Contact can be made at Friends for Families, P.O. Box 902, Tillamook, Oregon 97141, or The Selby House, 1503 Fourth Street, Tillamook, Oregon 97141.

—Candis Edmonds

George Fox College News

Tim Tsohantaris, who has been named to replace Ron Crecelius as George Fox College chaplain, will have the title Acting Director of Christian Life during the 1985-86 year.

Crecelius left his position after 18 years and is now serving as Evangelist-at-Large for GFC, speaking throughout the Northwest.

Tsohantaris is also serving as a counselor to minorities and international students and is assistant soccer coach.

Born in Greece, Tsohantaris, 31, comes from North Ridgeville, Ohio, where he was a pastor and church planter with the Evangelical Friends Church—Eastern Region. He is a 1977 graduate of Barrington College, Rhode Island, with a bachelor of arts degree in biblical studies, physical education, and science. He also has a master's degree in pastoral ministries from Ashland Theological Seminary, Ohio.

There are two "President Stevenses" at George Fox College this year.

Linda Stevens is president of the George Fox College Auxiliary. Her husband, Edward, is president of the College.

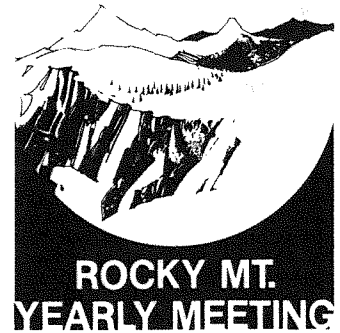
Linda Stevens is heading the Auxiliary as it celebrates its 75th year.

Serving as head of a campus auxiliary is not an unfamiliar role. She was president of a similar organization for two years at Sioux Falls College in South Dakota, before the Stevenses moved to GFC.

As the college's "First Lady" she already is the official hostess for hundreds of persons and dozens of groups annually, on campus and at home.

Administrative reorganization at George Fox College began October 1 with the naming of Harold W. (Buck) McCrone, Jr., as the new Vice President for Advancement and Administration for the College. The realignments involve ten persons and departments and bring all off-campus marketing and promotion departments under one area.

McCrone, 48, is a former corporate attorney who for two years was Vice President of College Relations at Linfield College, McMinnville, Oregon. He now is responsible for major gifts, planned and deferred giving, alumni activities, church relations, media relations and publication, and has the newly assigned responsibilities to guide the campus Video Communication Center, Tillikum Retreat Center, and the admissions office.



RMYM Briefs

COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO—The Joe Aldrich Lifestyle Evangelism film series was shown September 22 and 29. The film topics were *Taking the Pulse of a Growing Church* and *Becoming a Redemptive Neighbor*.

WOODLAND PARK, COLORADO—Five families have started a new church in Woodland Park. Larry Kinser is leading the group as pastor. Other families planting the outreach are Michael, Julie, Lucas, and Amanda Mardock; Larry and Mileta Kinser; Mike, Karen and Gabriel Lile; Richard, Donna, and Darin Kearns; and Harold and Cari Mastin.

FORT COLLINS, COLORADO—Church members have collected 8,912 pennies as part of their goal to gather one mile of the coins. That amount is equal to one-tenth of a mile.

NORTH PLATTE, NEBRASKA—Nearly 40 men gathered at Maranatha Bible Camp for the annual RMYM Men's Retreat October 18-20. James Morris, executive director of Evangelical Friends Mission, was the key speaker.

OMAHA, NEBRASKA—Pastor Pete Schuler and wife, Jean, are leading a home Bible study using "Basic Steps to Christian Maturity" from Campus Crusade for Christ. The church anticipates more studies will soon begin.

RMYM Prayer Opportunities

1. When was the last time you told the Lord God your love for Him? (See Matthew 22:37-39.)

2. Pray for the ministries of these churches: Kansas—St. Francis; Nebraska—New Hope, Omaha, Plainview, Benkelman, and Allen; South Dakota—Empire and Harmony; Colorado—Ordway, Woodland Park, Grand Junction, and Lamar; and New Mexico—Albuquerque.

3. Pray that Satan will be bound from your loved ones, friends, and church (James 4:7).

4. Examine your life to see if there are any sins or evil ways that need cleansing. Examples to confess might include lust, drunkenness, anger, slander, gossip, a critical spirit, lying, stealing.

FRIENDS GATHER

(Editor's note: With first mention of a church, the name of its pastor is noted in parentheses.)

Outreach

"Reaching Out Through the Power Within" has been the theme of sermon, song, and special events at **DEERFIELD**, Ohio, (Wayne Evans). Increasing awareness of responsibility for the spiritual needs of the community around us has been Pastor Evans's focal point with a church-filled Rally Day, starting with the ministry of Earl and Catherine Smith and climaxed by the evangelistic messages of Dale Diggs, several days in October.

Nguyen-van-Do came to this country as a boat refugee from Vietnam something over ten years ago. **NEWBERG**, Oregon, (Ron Woodward) Friends assisted him and his family, and later Pastor Do, as he came to be called, moved to Portland and was instrumental in establishing the Vietnamese Evangelical Church of Oregon. On October 26, a second Vietnamese evangelical church was dedicated in southwest Portland, with Newberg Friends choir participating in the dedication and Ron Woodward giving the benediction.

ALLIANCE, Ohio, (Rick Sams) reports that Sue Sarver serves on Baldwin-Wallace University campus with Christian Coalition Outreach. She has varied ministries among students, all geared to leading them to personal salvation. Jim Lackey has been named "Outstanding Teacher Currently Active in High School Training" for the state of Ohio. This award was presented by the Speech Communication Association of Ohio. Jim has been teaching ten years at West Branch High School, and also teaches at Kent State University, Salem branch, and Youngstown State University.

Pastor James Kilpatrick of **PROVIDENCE** Friends, Virginia Beach, Virginia, is serving on the planning committee for a second "Tidewater for Jesus" being held in November. This is a joint service for approximately 50 churches to be held at the Norfolk Scope Convention Hall.

OKLAHOMA CITY, Oklahoma, (Sheldon Cox) Friends celebrated "Joy Day" on October 20. This is a special time to express appreciation by honoring the senior citizens in the morning service and a dinner at noon.

The **PENIEL**, Onemo, Virginia, (Roy Taylor) church gave a 1972 nine-passenger Ford van to the Evangelical Friends Church—Eastern Region for disaster work in the Virginia and Piedmont District.

Pastor William Waltz of **SMITHFIELD**, Ohio, was chairman of the community worship service at the Smithfield Apple Festival. "The Potter's Clay," a group of singers from Malone College, provided the music.

Spiritual Life and Growth

Pastor Sheldon Tucker, **PLAINS**, Kansas, will be conducting classes on Friends history, using the book *Why Friends Are Friends* by Jack Willcuts. This is open to all considering church membership. This fall several events were held to encourage the spiritual growth of the church. Jim Ratzlaff and Wayne Powell challenged the church to set goals to work toward this coming year in a leadership conference. Jan Wood of Seattle, Washington, presented a challenge to a deeper commitment.

FOCAS, the singles group at **NORTHBRIDGE**, Wichita, Kansas, (Duane Hansen) were in charge of the morning service at Maple Gardens Retirement Home. Glen and Elaine Rochholz and Jim and Jeanne Bolley sponsor this group.

The Executive Committee of **BAYSHORE**, Bacliff, Texas, (Mahlon Macy) Friends met in a one-day retreat. It was a great success and it was voted to have another one in 1986.

SAXAPAHAW, Graham, North Carolina, (Jim Hollingsworth) reports the church is growing and the Lord is really working in our midst in recent days. Recently there have been three new converts. Special speaker for Homecoming Service was Rev. John Wheeler, who then continued with revival meetings during the ensuing week.

A new emphasis on prayer at **DAMASCUS**, Ohio, (Joe Kirby) has been made, with ladies of the church meeting at 6:00 a.m. for prayer on Thursday mornings and the men meeting for prayer at 5:00 a.m. on Saturday mornings.

God has been blessing in the services of **LONGVIEW**, Danville, Virginia, (Terry Knighten) Friends, and there is much thanksgiving for Pastor Knighten in giving out the Word in the power of the Holy Spirit. Also, much praise is given to God for good attendance recently.

ALUM CREEK, Marengo, Ohio, (Dane Ruff) held "Revive-All '85," a four-day series of special meetings, and saw God moving in our midst. The speaker was Pastor Wayne Ickes from **EAST RICHLAND** church, and Earl and Catherine Smith, who were music evangelists, ministered to the children.

There was much excitement when 23 women of **GOSHEN**, Zanesfield, Ohio, (Bruce Bell) Friends were able to attend the Women's Retreat in Ripley, West Virginia. They returned home spiritually renewed and refreshed.

Missions

Bob and Cheri Hampton, new missionaries to Rough Rock, spoke at several Rocky Mountain Yearly Meeting churches this fall, including **SPRINGBANK**, Allen, Nebraska (Roger Green).

A new missionary group known as the Bible Missionary Fellowship has

been formed at **DAMASCUS** Friends and meets the third Monday of each month. The fellowship has also started a Bible study that meets the first and third Tuesday of the month. Special offerings have been taken recently for acquiring funds for a new car for Norma Freer as she returned to India this fall. Fred and Evalyn Turner showed slides of their recent trips and gave new insight into the missionary work of the Yearly Meeting. Norma Freer spoke during a Sunday evening worship time. She is a very special woman serving in India, and her ministry was much appreciated. Special guests during the Faith Promise emphasis have been Dr. and Mrs. Charles DeVol, who shared a sermon during the worship service, with an informal hour of sharing and question-answer session during Sunday school. A potluck dinner was enjoyed after the morning services.

Nine people from **PENIEL** church went to **ACHILLES** Friends Church to see Dr. Charles DeVol's slides of China presented by Dr. Roger Wood. A group attended the District Rally held at the **COLONY ROADS** Church where Roger Wood gave a report on missions abroad and Dean Johnson gave great news about the work of Friends Disaster Service.

DENVER, Colorado, (David Brantingham and Chuck Orwiler) reports that Jonathan Hsu of Shanghai, China, was a special speaker at Denver and Colorado Springs churches. Mr. Hsu was involved in the China Friends Mission before the communist takeover.

Recent missions speakers at **PROVIDENCE** have been Norma Freer, Lucy Anderson, and Bill Mustard. Sunday school classes and many individuals are now even more committed to helping our missionaries.

The **SMITHFIELD** Norma Freer Missionary Society sponsored a booth of handmade crafts and baked goods at the Fall Bazaar at

the nearby mall. Monies are used for missions projects and other needs.

The Leora DeVol Missionary Society of **ALUM CREEK** sponsored a luncheon for the employees of a nearby business, raising \$65 for missions.

At **ALLIANCE**, Tom and Maureen Hartenstein told of their work in Youth With a Mission and of their involvement in its program. They are presently stationed at Lakeside, Montana. Bill and Lois Miller, missionaries to Spain, recently shared in word and song.

Youth and Christian Education

HAVILAND, Kansas, (Gary Wright) junior high youth enjoyed their fall retreat at Coldwater Lake. The theme was "One Another."

The youth of **OKLAHOMA CITY** sponsored a harvest festival. All proceeds go to the youth projects.

Agape Christian School of **PROVIDENCE** was started this fall with preschool classes through grade 6. Approximately 110 children are enrolled. Modernization of church facilities is almost completed in order to better serve the needs of the school. Kirk and Diana DeVinney are now in charge of the children's church. Russ and Judy Nutt have started a puppet ministry the first Sunday of each month for this same age group. Special teacher-training sessions have been held with Steve and Brenda Flood of CBN University, along with Kirk DeVinney and Debi Hall, with special sessions for Sunday school teachers, children's church workers, and prospective teachers. The youth recently held their second "Pig Pickin'" to help raise money for a van for youth and church use.

The Country Fair came to **BAYSHORE** in October. This was the climax of the Sunday School Crusade. Country bucks were earned by participating in the Sunday school dur-



Sharon Burdick (left) and Jean Digman sell handmade items as a missions project of the Norma Freer Missionary Society of the Smithfield, Ohio, Friends Church.

ing the crusade. These "bucks" were spent at the fair. The Country Store, the Country Kitchen, a Country Sheriff and Jail were available for customers.

The **ALUM CREEK** Sunday school sponsored an attendance contest on EFA Super Sunday. The Junior and Senior departments were the "Highways" and "Hedges" respectively. There were 92 in attendance, topping the goal of 85. A picnic followed the morning service featuring Super Sundaes for dessert.

PLAINS appreciated the ministry of Sandy and Steve Dufield as youth ministers this summer to the junior high group. Sandy was involved in individual counseling in addition to her work. A trip to Alabaster Caverns climaxed the summers' activities.

An Arts and Crafts Fair was held at **NORTHBRIDGE**. Part of the proceeds will go toward the youth's trip to Mexico next summer.

AWANA is off to a good start with 172, 173, and 176 on each of the first three meeting nights at **DAMASCUS**.

Building Improvements

At **CHARITY**, Marietta, Georgia, (John Ryser) Friends, Russell and Marjorie Myers were weekend guests recently and participated in a fellowship time at the new property where the church will be built. On Sunday Marjorie shared with the youth of the church on missions. Russell spoke in the Sunday morning service on Faith Promise and on having a vision for new churches. Your prayers in behalf of the building program will be appreciated.

Five ceiling fans were installed in the sanctuary at **ALUM CREEK**.

At **CLACKAMAS PARK**, Milwaukie, Oregon, (Paul Anderson) plans are being made to blacktop the parking on the east side of the church.

"Evangelical Friends Church—a Bible-centered Ministry"—reads the new 3½ x 7-foot illuminated sign facing Great Northern Boulevard at **NORTH OLMSTED**, Ohio (Neil Orchard). A tall cross stands adjacent to the sign as a welcome beacon to travelers who will soon pass by on the four-lane highway scheduled to open in the near future. In the meantime, worshipers have exclusive use, eliminating the temporary access road off the Butternut Ridge Road that has been traversed for over six years.

Work is being done on the **SAX-APAHAW** parsonage with vinyl siding and shutters on the outside, carpet on the living room and hall floors and work in the bathroom.

Other Special Events

The Portland Area Rally met at **CLACKAMAS PARK** November 17. Our missions conference and holiday dinner held November 30-December 1 with **HILLTOP** meeting with us for the dinner. Wayne Chapman and James Roberts were the speakers.

BYHALIA, Ohio, (Ted Barnes) enjoyed a special "cookout" for new pastors Ted and Shirley Barnes, along with an old-fashioned "pounding." A ladies' mini retreat with Bonnie Conners, who is associated with Mental Health Clinics in Lancaster, Ohio, was enjoyed recently with 35 women enrolled. Jackie Miller and Linda Aspdon of **MARYSVILLE** provided special music. After a potluck supper on Friday night, the evening service was centered around the topic "Relationship with Other People." After Saturday morning breakfast and devotions, a "silent auction" was held, with proceeds going to church needs. The Saturday morning services continued on the same theme as Friday evening. The spirit of fellowship and information was a real blessing, with time and effort well spent.

Katherine Jameson has joined the pastoral staff at **UNIVERSITY FRIENDS**, Wichita, Kansas (David Kingrey). She completed her training at Princeton Theological Seminary.

Clarence and Be Anna Emry of **SPRINGBANK** celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary September 14 in the Wakefield, Nebraska, Care

Center. Solo and duet numbers were given by Herbert Ellis and Christine Isam. Ken and Edna Mathesen played music during the lunch. Attendees included friends, relatives, children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren.

HOMESTEAD, Kansas, (John Hinshaw) said good-bye to Pastor Lloyd and Doris Hinshaw (John's parents), who retired and moved to Vale, South Dakota.

Guest speaker recently at **PENIEL** was Don Kensler, a former pastor. The evening service included slides and old movies of Peniel church and some of its activities taken years ago. Finger foods were served afterwards, and everyone took part in Christian fellowship. Twenty-five young people and five adults visited the Norfolk Zoo. After a picnic lunch, a time of fun was enjoyed at the playground. The church is planning a special service in memory of Cliff Robinson. The offering received will be used to help Betty Robinson with the expenses as she writes a book of his life.

At **PAONIA**, Colorado, (Eldon W. Cox and Dave McNickles) John Carter, a Westfield, Indiana, music arranger and gospel singer, gave a

concert on October 6, and Paonia Friends recently participated in a fifth Sunday Union Service at the United Methodist Church.

Former pastor Greg Grigsby resigned his pastoral leadership from **WEST MANSFIELD**, Ohio, (Gerald Virden) in order to continue studies in Philadelphia. Gerald Virden and his wife, Nancy, have been welcomed by the West Mansfield and Somersville congregations. Gerald and Nancy came to the church from Grinnell, Kansas.

NEW HOPE, Hay Springs, Nebraska, (Norman MacGregor) Friends held an old-time Quaker meeting with men and women on opposite sides of the meeting room recently.

A large group from **PROVIDENCE** recently attended the Good News Mission Banquet at the Lake Wright Motor Inn for Kent and Hilda Garner. Kent is chaplain at the Virginia Beach Correctional Center, and Hilda teaches in the Agape School.

Marilynn Ham presented a concert at the **HAVILAND** Friends Church. She is assistant professor of music at Friends Bible College and in concert tour throughout the Midwest. Her husband, Bob, and son Norris are part of the program.

FRIENDS RECORD

BIRTHS

AMOS—To Leonard and Faye Amos, a daughter, Stephanie Faye, September 16, 1985, Martinsville, Virginia.

BARR—To David and Euleta Barr, a son, Phillip Adam, September 23, 1985, Liberal, Kansas.

BROWNING—To Richard and Robin Browning, a daughter, Ramah Lee, July 30, 1985, Bolton Friends, Independence, Kansas.

CHAMBERS—To Doug and Pam Chambers, a daughter, Kendra Jo, September 26, 1985, University Friends, Wichita, Kansas.

CHILDS—To Steven and Debbie Childs, a daughter, Stephanie Teresa, August 2, 1985, Spokane Friends, Washington.

COSTIN—To Robert and Marie (Thompson) Costin, a daughter, Meghan Elizabeth, April 28, 1985, Spokane Friends, Washington.

DEEL—To Keith and Jan Deel, a daughter, Collene Anne, August 27, 1985, Marengo, Ohio.

DeMAIN—To Gary and Sheryl (Puckett) DeMain, a daughter, Meghan Kay, August 3, 1985, Ottumwa, Iowa.

ECKHARDT—To Ronnie and Karen Eckhardt, a son, Kyle James, September 8, 1985, Cherokee, Oklahoma.

HAMPTON—To Dick and Bonnie Hampton, a daughter, Bonnie Delynn, November 7, 1985, Seattle, Washington.

HOLMES—To John and Karen Holmes, a son, Ian Christopher, September 12, 1985, Lawrence, Kansas.

HUTSON—To Ed and Dalene Hutson, a daughter, Abby Jean, September 30, 1985, Northridge Friends, Wichita, Kansas.

KING—To Darwin and Diana King, a son, Isaac Lane, September 18, 1985, Council House, Wyandotte, Oklahoma.

McDANIELS—To Steven and Dawn McDaniels, a daughter, Crystal Marie, April 28, 1985, Tacoma, Washington.

METZGER—To Joe and Maude Metzger, a daughter, Heather Irene, August 29, 1985, Marengo, Ohio.

STORM—To Kyle and Kathy Storm, a son, Colin, August 16, 1985, Spokane Friends, Washington.

THOMPSON—To Mr. and Mrs. Robert Thompson, a son, Steven Robert, August 16, 1985, Spokane Friends, Washington.

MARRIAGES

FITCH—**SPENCER**. Julie Fitch and Les Spencer, June 4, 1985, Federal Way, Washington.

KAMPFER—**WEINGART**. Margie Ann Kampfer and Doug Weingart, September 22, 1985, Damascus, Ohio.

MARTIN—**TOWNSEND**. Teresa Martin and Ralph Townsend, August 3, 1985, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho.

PAUW—**HOSMAN (TROUT)**. Polly Pauw and Hugh Hosman became Polly Pauw Trout and Hugh D. H. Trout, September 24, 1985, Tacoma, Washington.

SENTS—**WHITEHURST**. Pat Sents and Steve Whitehurst, August 3, 1985, Westside Friends, Kansas City, Kansas.

SHANTZ—**WILLIAMSON**. Valerie Shantz and Pete Williamson, August 31, 1985, Tacoma, Washington.

STANAWAY—**DOCKSTADER**. Beverly Stanaway and Robert Dockstader, August 11, 1985, Tacoma, Washington.

UTTERBACK—**STEER**. Peggy Utterback and John Steer, September 7, 1985, Salem, Ohio.

DEATHS

COX—Frank Cox, 63, September 4, 1985, Bayshore Friends, Bacliff, Texas.

COX—Glenn Cox, September 26, 1985, Rose Hill, Kansas.

DENNIS—Delcie Dennis, 70, August 16, 1985, Alum Creek Friends, Marengo, Ohio.

GRAY—Dorothy Gray, 99, September 13, 1985, Bayshore Friends, Bacliff, Texas.

JACKSON—Bernice Jackson, May 13, 1985, Newport, Rhode Island.

NESTER—Herman C. Nester, 93, September 8, 1985, Bayshore Friends, Bacliff, Texas.

NIXON—Erna Emilie Oesterreich Nixon, September 22, 1985, Melbourne Village, Florida.

RIVERS—Jane Rivers, September 27, 1985, University Friends, Wichita, Kansas.

THOMAS—Burt Thomas, September 17, 1985, University Friends, Wichita, Kansas.



HE CAME TO HIS OWN

BY ROBERT FREDERICK LAUER

*Robert Lauer of Portsmouth, Virginia,
is a member of the Virginia Beach
Friends Meeting.*

THE LIGHT SHINES in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. Yet to all who received him . . . he gave the right to become children of God." (John 1:5, 10-12)

It amazes me how that first Christmas surprised the world. Of course, then, like now, everyone was waiting for the Messiah. Everyone knew that God would send us a savior. They talked and prophesied about it, argued, wept and laughed over it.

But for all their talking, arguing, and prophesying, no one thought of walking out the back door and looking behind the stables for God. What would God be doing back there sleeping in a manger? Society was in big trouble! Organized religion was failing miserably. Family ties weren't as stable as they once were. Rome ruled the world, and the Greeks were spreading around all sorts of immoral ideas. And don't forget the crime rate, the threat of war, and increasing unemployment among the middle class. At a time like this, surely God wouldn't play a dirty trick on us like sneaking out back to the stable and falling asleep like a newborn baby in something the animals eat out of!

Well, that's exactly what God did, and few even noticed. There were clues enough, but people overlooked them. There was that teenage girl Mary who had been pregnant for the past nine months but only married for a little over three months. Everyone knew what type of girl she was. Was anyone to believe that God had something to do with that? There were those shepherds running around at all hours of the night, singing and shouting about angels and lights out in their fields, but how can anyone trust such fanatics? And there were those "wise men" from the east—that cult of superstitious astrologers who marched into town talking about "a newborn king."

I wonder about the main characters in the Christmas story—did they really know what

was going on at the time, or were they as confused and unsure as I might be if I were in their place? Did Mary realize how fully she was accepting God when she accepted that unplanned, unexplainable pregnancy that was sure to cause talk among the neighbors and maybe even rifts in her family? Was Joseph aware that he was accepting God when he decided to take Mary as his wife and raise as his own son a child he knew was not biologically his? Did Herod realize he was attempting to murder God when he ordered the slaying of the innocents?

These are questions I ask myself every Christmas. Such questions help make the holiday meaningful. I wonder if we see "something of God" in the unwed pregnant teenage girls in our society, and I wonder what my responsibility in Christ is to such people. I wonder about the fanatics—our latter-day shepherds who come running to us during the night, singing and shouting about angels and lights in the fields. I think about those people from different cultures, nations, and religions whose strange beliefs and practices seem outdated, even uncivilized and ridiculous, and yet who are searching for the same star we more enlightened Westerners are searching for. I think about our modern Herods—those governmental and religious leaders who would protect the established orders and forms at all cost from any "newborn kings" who might pop up. And I think of all the humans that will be born this Christmas Eve and put to sleep in trash cans because we who have so much can't seem to find room in our inns.

WHEN ALL is said and done, I find myself thinking back to that first Christmas Eve. I am sitting in the dark stable, trying to keep warm between the animals as we look at what appears to be just another baby sleeping in the manger. Part of me is filled with wonder at the way God sneaks into our world in completely unexpected, sometimes even ridiculous ways, and part of me is very grateful that I was born nearly two thousand years after Jesus. 



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N20

update

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Successful Missions Program A Vital Part of NWYM

Since 1930 Northwest Yearly Meeting has been committed to ministry among the Aymara people of Bolivia. This fruitful ministry continues through the prayers and financial support of Friends in the Northwest. The mission work in Aymaraland has for many years now included Peru and is directed by national leadership.

Missionary staff is still an essential part of the Gospel outreach that has been entrusted to us. The eight families pictured below serve as missionaries under the NWYM Department of Missions. Local churches and individuals become partners with these missionaries through support of the Great Commission Budget

which provides salary, housing, transportation, and other support services for missionary outreach. Gifts for missions as well as other NWYM ministries can be mailed to the Yearly Meeting Office, Box 190, Newberg, OR 97132

Nordyke to Visit Mission Field

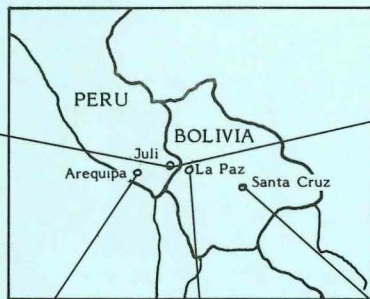
Quentin Nordyke, Yearly Meeting executive secretary, will be visiting the mission work in Bolivia and Peru this winter. The trip is a recommendation of the Mission Department. Quentin will be leaving in mid-February and returning around Easter. He will visit both fields, teach a seminary course in La Paz, attend missionary council meetings, and spend time with national church leaders.



Hal and Nancy Thomas
 David and Kristin
 (on medical leave)



Ed and Marie
 Cammack



Ben and Gen Fitch
 Reid, Tessa, and Trisia



Wayne and Bev Chapman
 Nicholas, Amy, and Michael
 (on furlough)



Denny and Sue Anderson
 Aaron, Bryan, and Kristin
 (not pictured is Corrie
 Alicia)



Steve and Janelle Baron
 Landon and Kelsey



Dwaine and Becky Williams
 Jonathan and Marci



James and Gail Roberts
 Heidi and Amanda
 (on furlough)

YCEW Team Schedules Trip to Bolivia and Peru

Five high school students will go to the mission fields in Bolivia and Peru this summer as a YCEW team (Youth Consecrated for the Evangelization of the World). This will be the third year for YCEW missionary experiences. Participants must be at least 16 years old and a high school junior by September 1986. Applications must be sent to the Yearly Meeting Office by 1/10/86.

Dan and Tami Cammack will lead the experience, which is designed to draw youth into a deeper relationship with Christ as they put their faith into action on the mission field. Participants will work directly with missionaries, visit Friends churches, and establish relationships with Bolivian and Peruvian youth.

Church Extension Concerns

CASCADE, Bend, Oregon--Praise for a good spirit among the people despite very real attacks by Satan over the last several months. Pray that outreach into the community will include action and not just talk. Pray for their Christmas Family Night, December 22, when each family presents a "gift" to the others in the form of a special presentation such as music, singing, poetry.

EAST BOISE, Boise, Idaho--Praise for a new couple who have joined the group and are giving leadership to the youth ministries in the church. Praise for a successful Thanksgiving service and program with over 100 people served at the dinner afterwards. Pray for plans and progress to finish the parking lot, grounds, and building. Pray for member Bob Pearcy, who is making plans to enlarge the Prison Ministry in the Northwest.

HILLTOP, Oregon City, Oregon--Praise for a successful Thanksgiving dinner that brought together some brand new attenders, former attenders, along with the regulars. Pray for some church families who are undergoing some real financial difficulties. Pray that Pastor Dale Rogers will have some indoor painting jobs this winter to help balance the part-time church salary. Pray for newcomers who have dropped in

to "look over" the church, that they might be drawn to fellowship with the Hilltop group.

KENT, Washington--Pray for a new gathering on Friday evenings, meeting as an alternative worship experience. This is an exciting experiment that is meeting the needs of several.

McCALL, Idaho--Praise for a new and deeper understanding concerning spiritual warfare and bringing about the Kingdom of God which is what church planting is all about. Pray that relationships with non-Christians will be strengthened so these contacts will want to become part of the church family.

ROSEBURG, Oregon--Praise that the church group was able to give out their first Thanksgiving basket to a local family. Praise that the group held their first major planning meeting, looking at the official launching of the church program. Pray for the dreams and goals set in the planning. Pray that this planning will be balanced with prayer and that prayer will be balanced with action. Pray for a place for the new church to meet that will serve them through considerable growth in the coming months.

SILVER VALLEY, Kellogg, Idaho--Praise that the group is growing and their second facility is now almost too small. Praise that one of the church families are all alive after their house burned to the ground in the early morning hours. Praise that outreach evangelism and discipleship are going strong and unhindered. Pray for Pastor Dick Wild and his wife, Sandy, who have had three deaths in their immediate family in the last eight months. This has been a real strain, especially for Sandy, who is suffering some health problems. Pray for funding as the church strives to minister to the needy in the community, reaching out in love and concern.

TWIN LAKES, Rathdrum, Idaho--Praise for four conversions in the last month among the youth. Praise for a real deepening in the corporate worship experiences. Pray for the two who lead the youth group that God will give them wisdom to make these young believers into disciples. Pray that the group as well as individuals will be obedient to the new truths God is teaching.